

N O A H.

ATTEMPTED FROM THE

G E R M A N

OF

M<sup>R</sup>. B O D M E R.

I N

T W E L V E B O O K S.

V O L U M E I I.

---



---

D U B L I N:

Printed for J. MURPHY, J. POTTS, D. CHAMBERLAIN,  
W. SLEATER, J. HOEY, JUN. J. MITCHELL,  
S. WATSON, J. WILLIAMS, and W. COLLES.

M,DCC,LXVII.

N O A H

PRINTED FROM THE

G E R M A N

OF

M R D O D M E R



T W E N T Y

V O L U M E



D U B L I N

Printed by J. Moxon, J. G. & Co. at the  
W. & G. R. J. H. & Co. J. Mitchell  
& Watson, J. W. & Co. & W. G. & Co.  
M D C C L X V I I



THE  
SEVENTH BOOK



N O A H.

## THE ARGUMENT.

SHEM going to put up hangings in a Spacious room of the ark, finds it adorned with paintings, which NOAH at length concludes to be a prophetic representation of the life of the SAVIOUR. Their attention is called off from these pictures by the appearance of a comet, The youths are amazed and perplexed, but SIPHA attempts to remove their doubts. MILCAH informs the brides of her hopes to be removed by death, and endeavours to assuage their grief for her loss. SHEM ascending the mountain to remove the terror his wife and sisters might feel on account of the comet, is surpris'd at finding them undismay'd. The ark is laden with the produce of Paradise. SIPHA is ordered by a celestial messenger to ascend the mount and die. He takes leave of NOAH; blesses HAM and JAPHETH, then ascends the mountain, where he blesses SHEM and comforts his daughters.



# N O A H.

## B O O K VII.

**A**LREADY was the ark partition'd into chambers for man, and receptacles for the animals, and already was it cover'd with a sloping roof; but still every ornament was wanting. SHEM going one morning into a spacious room in the middle story, to put up hangings, the beautiful works of SIPHA's daughters, whose depictive needles had form'd a lively representation of the sacred places in the mount, with amazement sees it painted with skill more than human. Enraptur'd he surveys the wondrous work; for the expressive paintings in the walls

and ceilings spoke the workmanship divine. Glorious advances had, even in those early times, been made in other arts, but very far was the warm touches of the Pencil from that perfection to which, after a long succession of ages, they were carry'd in Greece and Rome. Then groupes of figures were huddled together ; a dull sameness prevail'd throughout the whole, and perspective was unknown. But here, on the story'd walls, art shone in the utmost perfection ; the colouring was proper and natural, every figure projected distinct, some near, and others in gradual distances ; the proportions of the figures were admirable, and the gradations of light and shade, according to the most exact rules of optics. Here no touch was wanting to heighten the expression of the countenance, or to give life and motion to the limbs and features ; for every figure charm'd by being in its most advantageous position, and significant gesture.

SHEM was at first ready to think all the beings he beheld were endu'd with life, and had he not been sensible that he was in the ark, might have thought that the landscapes before him, were real views of the countries they represented. He approach'd the figures with caution and respect, ere he ventur'd to touch them with his hand.

He

He then exulting, call'd his brothers to behold the wonders perform'd by some blest'd angel, to amuse them during their confinement in the ark, and to excite devout speculations. See, O my brothers, said he, as they enter'd, these miraculous paintings, a divine intelligence is visible through all the splendid work, and evidently directed the hand that form'd it. At first with silent wonder and disultory eye, they rove over the various compartments, then fix'd survey some particular piece, reading in the expressive countenance every emotion of the mind: But in what age of the world liv'd the persons represented, or in what nation, was to them unknown.

The ceiling seem'd to rise into a lofty dome, in the center of which, was a wheel'd throne of saphire, animated by an indwelling spirit, attended by four cherubs. The wheels were studded with glittering beryl, and between them, fire blaz'd prompt for vengeance. On the throne sat a judge, arm'd with thunder; terrible his visage, terrible the front of his throne, and terrible the thundering wheels, whence, with irresistible rapidity issu'd destruction, hurling down myriads of beings, for whom open'd a flaming abyss, while round the judge, flew multitudes

titudes of bright spirits, shining with all the effulgence of celestial glory.

Twenty histories, in twenty compartments, adorn'd the stately room, and in each expression, design, and vary'd tints, join'd to invite the charm'd eye. After long gazing, lost in wonder and delight, JAPHETH cry'd, How has admiration bound my feet, that I have not acquainted our fathers, with the magnificence with which some celestial artist, has thus embellish'd the ark ! their long experience will, perhaps, enable them to discover the age and people, who are the subjects of these exquisite performances. He then hastened with the joyful news, and with no less haste, the venerable fathers came to view the sight. Not less amaz'd than their sons, they gaz'd on the paintings with rapture ; but equally conceal'd from them, where the times, the garb, and names of the persons, they saw thus beautifully represented. After long consideration, and the comparison of the prophecies reveal'd by the MOST HIGH and the angelic spirits, to his pious ancestors, NOAH said, if my conjectures be right, the subject of these various pieces still lie hid in the womb of time, and the events here represented will not be actually fulfill'd till after a long series



series of years, when the divine MESSIAH shall appear in a human form, and on earth converse with man. He who from nothing has peopled the infinite regions of space, and to whom futurity lies open, has perhaps here display'd the events of future ages. From you my dear children, shall these people descend.——But what distinguish'd figure is this? A heavenly smile adorns his awful face, and the brightest radiance beams from his resplendent eye. 'Though angels enraptur'd, in this piece administer to his relief, you there find, that he is not insensible to the wants of man, using food, apparel, and sleep. With what more than human dignity is he adorn'd? How my heart beats, surely this is the gracious REDEEMER, and each piece in prophetic painting, displays the glorious work of redemption. Oh what comforts shall I receive in the rolling ark, when encompass'd with the waters of the deluge, if the benevolent angel, who has promis'd me his chearing visits, will instruct me, by explaining these hidden mysteries!

From the gladdening contemplation of these miraculous paintings, their attention was soon withdrawn by an object that fill'd their hearts with dejection. In the remotest north,



SIPHA observ'd a star, rising new to his sight and moving towards the sun. In the dim evening, its disk seem'd to equal that of the moon, and dreadfully enlarging, soon resembled an ample shield. It had a watery gleam ting'd with a yellow red, its faint light appearing like that of the celestial rebel, when sheer'd of his radiant beams, he fell from Heaven. Below it wav'd a lucent train, whose growing extent spread through a large part of the northern sky. The sons of NOAH view'd it with anxious solicitude, uncertain whence it came, whether it was just form'd, or had long roll'd obscure thro' the wide expanse, till now illumin'd by the ALMIGHTY's touch. SIPHA conceal'd not his conjectures from the perplex'd youths, and thus strove to remove their doubts. My father, said he, saw this star, though to my eyes, it was till now unknown. Stars of this class I have oft beheld, but of shorter revolutions; on these, as on others, the OMNIPOTENT, on the day of their creation, impress'd their proper motion, through the wide firmament, where in excentric courses, they, with incessant rapidity, wheel round worlds innumerable, each in a different path. Some are surrounded by a fiery mist, and others, like this, cast thro' the gloom of night a tremendous tail  
of

of fuliginous vapours, and turbid light. Perhaps this is the long appointed instrument of the Divine vengeance against the sinful world.

How amazing! how tremendous! cry'd HAM. Was this star then to meet the earth, and other planets, the shock would be follow'd by total destruction, and night's sable and solitary reign, might again prevall, where now stars from east to west, round their immense course. But, O SIPHA, is such a catastrophe the stroke of the SUPREME JUDGE, punishing the nations? or comes it with the hour, which brings the comet in its natural course near the earth, whether the inhabitants be religious or profane?

Of, return'd SIPHA, the comets approach beneficent, supplying exhausted suns with fresh fuel, and with inundations, the thirsty planets. Otherwise suns extinguish'd, might involve through the regions of ancient night, and the planets exhausted of their humidity, by their internal fires, might soon be consum'd, while the myriads on their surface, with heart-piercing dread and anguish, might behold every mountain turn'd to a volcano, and instead of water, ejection

ejecting streams of liquid fire. It is certain that the heavens themselves shall pass away ; but they shall reach the term assign'd them by their wise CREATOR at their first formation. GOD is alone above all change, and by no circle circumscrib'd. But when time brings the comet, it is, perhaps, at the instant appointed by the great OMNIPOTENT, when with proportion'd impulse, he threw each ball from his hand, and bad it run its course, 'till the time when he foresaw the sins of the people would call for vengeance. He who has plac'd the stars in the firmament, and peopled them with corporeal and spiritual beings, knows the whole tenor of their existence ; never is he surpriz'd by an unexpected event, and no compulsive exigence, can change his purpose, and make him deviate from his wise designs.

O what can we determine of GOD ! cry'd SHEM, when the most towering flight towards the knowledge of his excellence, only betrays our comparative littleness ? When we venture to raise our thoughts to the heavens, thro' what infinite works of unsearchable wisdom and power does the eye of contemplation range, subliming the soul with encreasing light ! Beyond the sun move other suns ; beyond the world other worlds,

to

to us invisible, or dimly seen, yet all fill'd with the presence of one CREATOR, unlimited by time or place. In each, inhabitants, and myriads of living creatures. What then is the earth?—What then the human race?—What is one of us? How is every one lost and sunk into nothing? So minute am I, that GOD alone sees me, from His being GOD. I can only see the transient impressions of His infinitude in this earthly dust, and humble myself before Him, who with eye equally sedate, sees atoms or globes vanish, and the burst of a bubble or a world. Who from infinite remoteness observes me; who is nigh me, nigh the ark, in which shielded from the overwhelming deluge, I shall from thence be landed in a country provided with every blessing.

SHEM having thus spoke, walk'd up to the middle part of the mountain; for NOAH had enjoin'd him, that when the comet on its nearer approach, should cover the full moon, and the women appear terrify'd at its dreadful aspect, he should pour the balm of comfort into their minds. He had also in charge to load the docile camels with the fruits and other productions of Paradise fit for food, in order to supply the ark. SHEM found his wife and sisters possess'd of the utmost tranquillity,

tranquillity, and cutting down the harvest with compos'd alacrity ; for they had view'd the comet, as lately appointed to revolve round the earth like the moon its companion, and thus dispense a clear nocturnal light, deriv'd from the solar orb, that the night might be alternately illumin'd by their beams.

But now other sollicitudes agitate their gentle minds. They had learnt from MILCAH, the angel's declaration to NOAH, that the deluge would be preceded by a visit from the angel of death ; and her ardent wishes to be the happy person, who, by the favour of the ETERNAL, should first rise above the skies, and become an inhabitant of Heaven. She triumph'd in the thought, and from her joy, endeavour'd to give them consolation, then kiss'd them ; while distress'd by the noble conflict, they burst into a flood of tears. All stood for a few moments silent, till DEBORAH, wiping her bedew'd cheeks, said, Surely it is not a crime that our hearts and eyes, O MILCAH ! overflow at the sad news of thy soon ceasing, to enlighten our path, which depriv'd of thy light, will be all darkness and perplexity. Is weak nature forbid to swell into tears, and do they disgrace our minds ? indeed, the



the expectation of a superior life, in the celestial fields, teaches us to esteem death, the gate of felicity, and to strew festive garlands on the grave. Alas ! it must be own'd that our life is no more than the triumph of dust, enobled by the human form, while death is the more glorious triumph of the immortal spirit ! If it has terrors, they proceed from a sickly life ; for no pleasure has life, which death does not improve ; no real pleasure, which death does not exalt. Yet dearest mother, natural and blameless are our tears, at thinking, that the most tender affection, and the soft voice of consolation, is now failing us, and will be no more heard, when far from this Paradise, we shall be confin'd in our wooden abode, in a wide sea, amidst the rolling waves and roaring winds. But the ALMIGHTY LORD of Heaven and Earth, who knows the time of our death, and to whom is due the lowest homage and grateful submission, preserve us from repining at His wise and irreversible decrees !

With faltering speech THAMAR rejoin'd.  
In this streight, the best we can do, is in the  
most endearing courtesy and acts of affection, to  
employ the few days perhaps only hours remain-  
ing, for us to view thy gladdening face. We  
will



will carefully employ them in taking leave of thee, and crown the short space with all the obsequious love an human heart can feel. KERENHAPUCH spoke not a word, but with eyes suffus'd in tears, silent hung about her mother's neck.

MILCAH again tenderly embracing them, answer'd, O my dear daughters! were you not created to leave me, and I to leave you? this the order of nature has enjoin'd! I know you love me,—we will love each other when separated by the grave; for should we cease to love, we must cease to be. Thus they alleviated the anguish of their suppos'd separation.

SHEM found the works recommended to them compleated; for they had stor'd in SIPHA's dwelling, all kinds of grain and fruit, produc'd on bush, stem and tree. Abundant opulence! Yet their place mis'd them not; for there every season, was an exuberant Autumn: each falling pear was soon succeeded by another, the apple replaced the apple, and budding figs protruded the mature. Hitherto it had been a doubt with them, whether the seeds of each kind of inferior plants, were not to be sav'd, as both  
the

the stem and root would fall a prey to the devouring flood; left the land wanting its vernal robe, should lie in sterile nakedness; but SHEM this needless solicitude remov'd.

Now came on Night, and above the horizon appear'd the comet in magnitude equal to the moon: Its pale light was interspers'd with black spots, and its tail extended to the northern constellations; yet were the womens minds free from terror.

I cannot but wonder, said SHEM, at the courage with which you view this blazing star, whose terrific appearance, rather seems to give you pleasure than pain.

Should we not, said THAMAR, with grateful joy behold this new gift of Heaven, sent for the ornament and comfort of our earth, chearing its nights by adding its light to that of the moon. It is certainly by the direction of the MOST HIGH, that the lesser planet has thus approach'd the earth, by which it is now attracted, and thus accompanies its course.

SHEM still more astonish'd, gravely answer'd,

How

How can you, my dear sisters, imagine, that this planet is of so little force as to be so easily attracted by our earth? Its magnitude, though so distant, declares its power, and that it may drag the earth fix'd to its fiery wheels through its immense track. It is indeed come with dire intent, yet without power to hurt the family of our righteous father. The great CREATOR, who form'd and rules the heavenly bodies, has graciously condescended to assure us, that though all the kindreds of the earth shall be swallow'd up in destruction, yet will he spare us, and the strong structure, the model of which was brought us by his holy angels, is now nearly finish'd, to receive, with us, those animals the MOST HIGH has determin'd to save from the overwhelming deluge. Possibly in this strange star, this flood is plac'd, and at its due approximation to the earth, its waters will be pour'd on hill and plain. Let us therefore haste, and house our provisions, lest the day of wrath surprize us unprovided. I, in the mean time, remaining with you, will load the grain and fruit, so diligently gather'd, on the vigorous camels, which will, of themselves, expeditiously carry their burthens to the usual place.

These

These words involv'd the sisters in sudden anxiety, and now with trembling limbs, they rais'd their eyes to the menacing comet; yet is every fear soon dispell'd by the heart-reviving thought, that all the starry host are but ministers of the MOST HIGH; and whether moving or still, obey the breath of his mouth. Possess'd of this devout source of strongest consolation, little difficulty had SHEM to calm and fortify their exalted minds.

Daily were the laborious beasts dispatch'd, and on their being unloaded, voluntarily hasted up the mount, kneeling to receive fresh burdens. In the mean while, the ark was finish'd, when, to prevent the entrance of the waters, the seams were cover'd with resin, issuing from the unctuous soil. Windows at equal distances, along its ample sides, admitting the air and light, over which the provident NOAH fastened the skins of the shaggy lion and spotted tyger, to be roll'd up, when the sun shone serene, and in tempestuous weather, let down. In the rooms blaz'd asphaltus and naptha in lustres of emboss'd gold, making night chearful. Already had the treasures

fures, which SIPHA had brought into the mount, been convey'd into the ark, lest the remembrance of such works should be lost; works of splendor, convenience and use in gold, silver, and ivory, the inventions of early genius and skill, together with the instruments used by the several artists. Now they began to convey the provisions laid in readiness on the side of the mountain, fruit which in the ear and branch, were ripen'd by the sun.

In the mean time SIPHA was enjoying repose, shelter'd from the heat of sultry noon, when a celestial messenger appear'd before him, and with melodious voice thus spake: SIPHA arise and ascend to the middle of the mountain. There retire to thy house, where MEHITABEL and thee pass'd many years of harmony and love. Embrace and bless thy children; for there the angel of death waits with gentle hand to close thy life, and smooth thy passage from this earth to the mansions of bliss, where thy happy ancestors enjoy the rewards of their piety and inflexible virtue. Go, lest the deluge cut thee off with the workers of iniquity; for in the archives of Heaven it is written, that thou art not to enter the ark with



with thy brother. The office appointed thee, by thy CREATOR and FRIEND, is discharg'd, and the time of thy dismissal from earth is at hand.

SIPHA fill'd with sudden joy, hastily answer'd, Welcome celestial messenger, who bring'st me the fruit of my earnest petitions. Gladly I haste to lay myself down in the arms of death, that my enraptur'd soul may be convey'd to the celestial regions, and be introduc'd to the eternal life of the beatify'd spirits, in the presence of my MAKER, where I shall love and serve him better. Swiftly he rose to communicate the glad tidings to NOAH, whom he thus address'd. O my friend, GOD has heard my secret prayers, that I might be taken from the earth before thee. Forgive a proceeding dictated by self love; for much more eligible is it to be remov'd by death to the mansions of perpetual rest, where no comets blaze, no destructive tempests rage, than to see the wreck of nature, and hear the outcries of an expiring world. Death puts an end to the woes, and not to the real joys of life; for the source and means of true felicity, are far above all change. Thee, my dear friend, I leave in a  
tumul-

tumultuous sea encompass'd by arduous affairs, and involv'd in momentuous solicitude: thine eyes overflowing with compassion on account of the dreadful extinction of thy kindred race; in care for the preservation of thy family, and of the numberless numbers, which in thine ark, are to be carry'd over the raging deep. But amidst these distresses, thou hast the reviving converse of thy dear MILCAH, whose amiable manners spread tranquillity on thy wrinkled brow, and bear up thy labouring heart. To her tender care, I recommend my daughters, as the mothers of future mothers. She will be present at their delivery, and her sympathizing tenderness, will alleviate the pains of child-birth.

NOAH briefly answer'd, Go my happy friend to the angel of death, thy deliverer; who, commission'd by the MOST HIGH, takes off the shackles of this earthly prison; who puts a finishing hand to the pursuits of man; seals up their cares, and distress; their virtue, and their hope. Adieu, I will not detain thee. Confiding in my GOD, I shed no pusillanimous tears; nor do I envy thee, that thou art entering the safe harbour, while I am left to grapple with a most tremendous storm. But though, with dry eyes,  
I see

I see thee going, my mind is not without a full sense of my inexpressible loss. Thou soon wilt be with my father, and O tell him, tell the happy LAMECH the wonderful kindness of the LORD, to our children, whom amidst an universal flood, he is conducting to new settlements, that mankind may still subsist, and the earth abound with nations, who shall gratefully offer up their solemn praises to the CREATOR; and that from me shall descend the seed of the woman, that shall bruise the head of the serpent. Go, and with our bless'd fathers, celebrate the festivals of Heaven, and drink the cup of joy. Soon shall I taste the extatic pleasure of rejoining thee, and we shall embrace, without feeling the bitterness of any future separation.

Here NOAH, with compos'd affection, folded SIPHA in his arms, who let fall a few tears, and then turning to HAM and JAPHETH, embrac'd them; after which, laying his hands on their heads, he thus invok'd the FOUNTAIN OF ALL GOOD, The GOD, before whom my fathers walk'd—the GOD of METHUSELAH, ENOCH and SETH—the GOD, who with paternal tenderness, has cherish'd my life, which has pass'd away as on eagle's wings—and whose messenger deliver'd

deliver'd me from the cruel hands of ABIRAM, bless you both. May the LORD grant you children, righteous as ABEL and SETH, the patriarchs and founders of numerous nations, throughout all the regions of the peopled earth.

HAM and JAPHETH, melted into tears, while kneeling, they receiv'd this benediction; but rose with mingled grief and joy. Then SIPHA, with slow step, mov'd forward, often looking back to enjoy the pleasure of meeting once more—the eyes of his dejected friend, which follow'd him 'till he pass'd the intercepting rock.

SIPHA's unexpected presence, gladden'd the hearts of his daughters, who were drying raisins in the spacious court. With fond alacrity, they ran to him, and conducted him into the house; but Oh! what a stroke was it to their tender hearts, when, in the softest and most gentle terms, he told them, that he was come up thither, to give them his last blessing, and then to lie down and die! They now mourn'd for their father, with a grief equal to that they had felt for the suppos'd death of MILCAH.

SIPHA,

SIPHA, to alleviate their affliction, added with a serene aspect, let me remind you, that this body alone will die, and lie in the grave. But my soul, its inhabitant, the principal part of me, will survive ; and while that is mingled with the dust, this will enjoy a more exalted life than when confin'd in the house of clay : to you, indeed, invisible, but seen by the beatify'd spirits, seen by MEHITABEL, who will wait my coming, to encircle my temples with a chaplet of ever-blooming amaranth, gather'd from the brink of the fountain of life ! Can you, my children, lament my removal to celestial joys ? No, you surely cannot. Turn then your eyes to your husbands, and on them fix your pure affections ; for in them you have father, mother, and every dear relation.

Then turning to SHEM, When I am dead, said he, do thou my son, inter this inanimate clay, close by the altar of my reconcil'd JUDGE ; for this is my native soil, and to it I would return. Now, making a sign to the dejected youth, he drew nearer, and SIPHA, laying his hand on his head, added, Receive the blessing I have reserv'd for thee. Thy descendants O

VOL. II.

B

SHEM !



SHEM ! will be more numerous than the stars which glitter in the spacious arch of Heaven. Among them shall be one branch, supereminent, chosen by the MOST HIGH, who will send prophets, and appoint priests, to teach them his precepts, and at length will send the REDEEMER to fulfil all righteousness, in whom the nations of the earth shall be bless'd.

The news that SIPHA, and not she was to die, struck MILCAH with the deepest sorrow. She was like the mariners, who in a shatter'd ship, are disappointed in their hopes of reaching a secure harbour. Alas, said she, how did I deceive myself with precipitate imaginations ! already had I reach'd the resplendent confines of Heaven, the Earth was vanishing from my sight, and now behold, an unexpected notice suddenly pulls me down to the depressing cares of an earthly life.

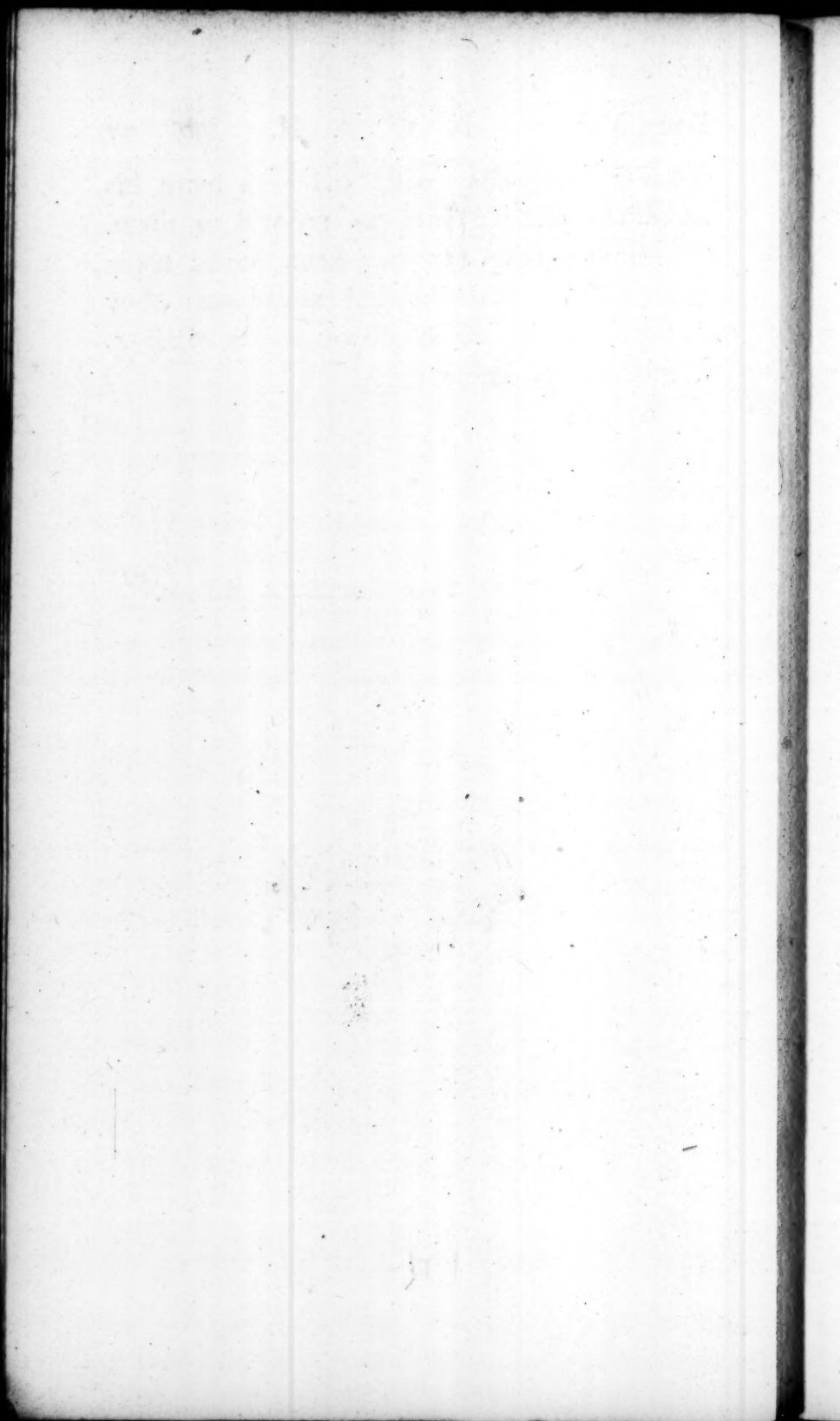
No herald of death yet appear'd : SIPHA had none of those warning messengers that wring the nerves, those tender strings of life, with torturing anguish : still active and strong he shar'd with his daughters, all the labours of the harvest.

Thus

Thus three mornings past, and each morn his  
daughters receiv'd him as restor'd to them.  
Yet soon, perhaps that very hour, to be taken  
from them. With fondest attendance, they  
strove to gladden the fleeting moments, studious  
to brighten his setting day.

THE END OF THE SEVENTH BOOK.





THE  
EIGHTH BOOK



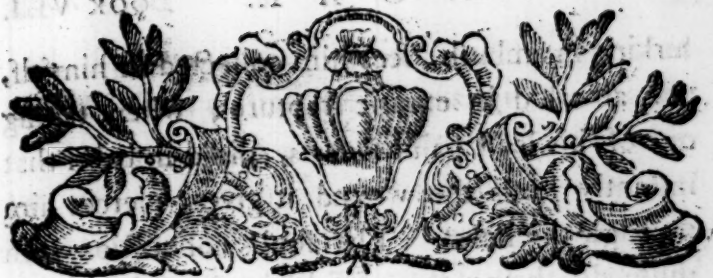
N O A H.

B 3

## THE ARGUMENT.

SIPHA dies, and is interr'd. RAPHAEL gives NOAH fresh instructions, and then flies to denounce the judgment of Heaven on the inhabitants of the earth, who still continue obdurate. NOAH spends five days with his family in solemn orisons and devout sacrifices. The women, and more particularly KERENHAPUCH leave their native abode with reluctance, and return to NOAH's dwelling. They enter the ark, and NOAH blowing a golden trumpet brought from Heaven, his sons are enraptured by the sound, and the animals enter the ark. JAPHETH's reflections on the wisdom of the great CREATOR. NOAH assigns the different employments of his sons and daughters. Mean while the deluge begins in the other hemisphere of the earth. A description of its approach and progress there; with the terrors and destruction of the inhabitants.





# N O A H.

## B O O K VIII.

**E**RE the fourth sun had with its earliest beams streak'd the clouds with crimson, SIPHA went up to the grove where the SOVEREIGN JUDGE pass'd sentence on the first offenders, and there, on the altar he himself had rais'd, offer'd the grateful incense of a sincere and resign'd heart. Silent he meditates on the promise of the MOST HIGH, that the seed of the woman should bruise the head of the serpent, and while considering the fortitude and power of the mighty VICTOR, embraces him in idea, with impassion'd arms. Meanwhile the angel of death,

lurking in ambush, sees him collected in himself, and absorb'd in extatic rapture; when taking one of his least painful darts, dip'd in balm that instantly heals the wound it gives, pierces him through the heart. The soul's connection with the body, being thus dissolv'd, the disburthen'd spirit with extatic rapture wings its flight to the blest'd realms of endless peace and joy.

SHEM, soon after, passing by the altar, and bowing with reverential awe, sees the patriarch leaning on it, with his head resting on his folded arms; struck with surprize, he approaches nearer; perceives him bereft of life, and passionately kisses his chill'd lips, and lifeless hand; then melancholy and slow, returns with the unwelcome news. Finding MILCACH in the court with DEBORAH and THAMAR, he cry'd, SISTER, who is no longer an inhabitant of the earth, will no more join with us in adoring the LORD. He now mingles his adorations with those of ENOCH and LAMECH. The angel of death found him at the altar: there I have seen him, and in a transport of grief and love, have beheld his earthly frame deserted by his celestial spirit.

The daughters with mournful voice, and streaming eyes, cry'd, A long adieu to thee, thou best  
best

best of parents; thy happiness will be now complete! Then casting their looks towards heaven, in the intenseness of their grief, thought they perceiv'd the progress of his soul, by a train of light: while MILCAH, in silence ponder'd on the glorious state to which GOD had exalted SIPHA, and MEHITABEL's gratulations, on her meeting him at his arrival, at the land of real life.

Meanwhile KERENHAPUCH lay in the soft bands of sleep, in her native mansion, pure and beauteous, as one of immortal lineage. To her came her two sisters, who finding her wrapt in sweet repose, forbore to awake her, with the mournful tale. But soon she opens her eyes; and knows the meaning of their sighs, and languid features, ere they speak. Tho' before inform'd she would soon feel this heavy loss, her tender heart was no less oppress'd, than if the mournful news had, without warning, come abrupt.

Now all pay their last duties to his inanimate clay, and odours rise from the altar to the skies. They spend the day in lamenting over him, and with admiration recount, with intermingled sighs, his splendid virtues. All that remains of

him on earth, said SHEM, we ought carefully to preserve. Our most honourable patrimony is the glory of his divine life, and his virtues, with which we should enrich ourselves. Oh let us record his wisdom on the tables of our hearts ! let us incline our ears to his dictates ; for though silent, he still speaks to us—still while in the realms of endless bliss he speaks ; and with animating voice exhorts us to follow him to the bright world, where we shall again embrace, and share his joys !

Before the declining sun had call'd up the still evening, SHEM dug a grave, in which his sisters having sprinkled myrrh and cinnamon, they plac'd in it the corpse, dress'd in the cloaths he wore, and over it strew'd the rose, the violet, and jessamine, with other flowers of sweetest fragrance.

Rest, forsaken body, cry'd DEBORAH, soft be thy repose, in the recluse bosom of this cool earth, through the night of ages, 'till the creative voice shall call thee too, up to the fields of celestial light.

These rites being finish'd, they, enlign'd by the comet's pale gleam, silent and slow, return'd

to

to their abode, where NOAH, JAPHETH and HAM, during their absence, had arriv'd, and expected the women, their sweetest consolation in distress.

RAPHAEL had that day brought fresh instructions to the patriarch; NOAH, said he, the day of wrath is at hand. Already has the LORD issu'd orders to the guardian angels of the revolving spheres, to guide with double diligence, the heavenly bodies, during the comet's approach to this terraqueous globe, when it will pour forth an overwhelming deluge. This was the view of the MOST HIGH, in sending it forth against the earth, which will enjoy only six days of chearful light. On the seventh, the floods will rush impetuous from the depths of the ocean, and the immense tail of the comet. Then shall all the creatures, which breathe the air, and walk on the land be destroy'd, except thy family, and the animals that shall dwell with thee in the ark. Receive this golden trumpet, which I have brought from the arsenal of heaven. When thou blowest it, the wing'd fowl, four-footed beasts, reptiles and insects, shall repair to thee; place themselves in their several receptacles; live with thee in amicable quiet, and obey thy voice. I am also commission'd to denounce a last monitory

woe



woe on the profligate world. Hold thyself in readiness, that on the seventh day the invading flood may see thee shelter'd in the divine vessel. I shall close the door of the ark, and preserve it amidst the rising waves. Be expeditious, already has the angel of death conducted thy happy friend to the glorify'd saints of GOD, where his joys exceed thy utmost stretch of thought.

Thus spake the angel, and with rapid wing, soar'd high over countries and states. The stroke of his wings resembled thunder, and the undulations of his voice reach'd the most distant lands, while thus he cry'd, GOD is seated on his judgment seat, and already is the sentence gone forth. Repent, repent, and turn unto the LORD; for after six days comes the day of his wrath, and all that live upon the earth shall be destroy'd. Woe to them on whom shall fall the indignation of the OMNIPOTENT.

NOAH heard the thunder reverberate from Paradise, and adoring the MOST HIGH, who holds the equal scale of justice, went with HAM and JAPHETH, to assemble those who were in the mount.

As



As plenty of provisions, more than would suffice man and beast, for one entire year, had been stor'd in the ark, the remaining days, they sanctify'd to the LORD, by solemn orisons and devout sacrifices. Every evening and morn saw NOAH offering, at the altar of propitiation. While standing on the eminence, which had been rais'd over SIPHA's grave, his affection to him burst forth in ascriptions of praise to the GOD of all grace, who had taken him to himself. Each returning morn the women strew'd over it flowers of beautiful tint, and pleasing fragrance, while the men pour'd on it the wine of the spreading palm. NOAH then addressing them, said, O my sons, since we are depriv'd of this excellent much lov'd man, walk, I conjure you, in his ways, and Oh! ever speak and act like SIPHA.

Five delightful days of devotion and tranquillity, being elaps'd, on the fifth they took their leave of the lovely groves and flowers, that were no longer to diffuse their fragrance over the blooming fields of Paradise, the native spot of SIPHA's lovely offspring. How their tender hearts beat at their being oblig'd forever to forsake their vernal residence. With earnest looks, their eyes

eyes hung on the lovely landscape. As a man who is shipwreck'd, and cast on a rock, embraces it with his arms, and holds it fast, though his hands knees and feet are defil'd and bleed, with the sand and piercing stone, till the receding waves, with superior force wash away his eager gripe: so their eyes cleav'd to their espaliers and fragrant groves: their looks were fix'd on these not without the falling tear, till the superior power of Providence, forc'd them off. KERENHAPUCH took with her a vase that contain'd a favourable carnation, on which she had wantonly bestow'd her labour, though nature had left her nothing to improve. At her request, NOAH permitted her to preserve in the ark, the only flower that bloom'd and smil'd during the deluge—the only flower sav'd for the following earth. DEBORAH brought under her arm, a roll of the leaves of the smooth papyrus, and wanted no permission, to deposite it in the ark. It contain'd the hymns of ELIHU, the most ancient of the poets, by the devout patriarchs call'd the divine. He, taught by a celestial spirit, sang in inimitable strains the mysteries of heavenly wisdom. Though these inestimable writings, were by DEBORAH's pious care, sav'd from the flood, to us they are lost. Long were they, by SHEM and DEBORAH's offspring, held in due reverence, till a base degeneracy of morals prevailing, a taste for all that is exalted and sublime

sublime, was banish'd. Even the arts, the fruit of early genius, improv'd by long protracted youth, and a lengthen'd life, of great extent, were with the inventors committed to oblivion. Many ages later, in our evening of the earth, illumin'd genius, under purest influences, retriev'd some. Of many, man with proud exultation, boasts of being the first inventor, and contemptuously looks down on the youth of the earth, though they had ages of experiments, and on their heads shone the sun's brightest rays. In that universal profligacy the sublime psalms of the poets, were also bury'd in the dust of forgetfulness, yet were they remember'd by the angels, and even in Heaven, are they sung by choirs of enraptur'd spirits.

When the sisters had proceeded about a hundred paces from SIPHA'S garden, KERENHAPUCH, prompted by an ardent desire to take one view more of the enchanting spot, set down her carnation, and flew back. With painful delight she survey'd the green carpet, wrought by Nature's finger, with flowers of the brightest colours, and the long frequented avenues leading through the ever-verdant groves. In fix'd attention she stood, till eas'd by her gushing tears; then casting a last look on the favourite objects, return'd  
with

with the swiftness with which she came. Thus flew ANEMONE to the coffin of her dearest friend, and thus with fix'd eyes, view'd the lovely corpse of her CLARISSA, early snatch'd from life. Aloud ANEMONE wept, with uplifted hands, and quick, with both embrac'd the sleeping angels head; kiss'd her eyes; kiss'd her faded cheek; then crying, A solemn and everlasting farewell to this pride of virgins, forsook with swift foot, the pale and lifeless corpse.

KERENHAPUCH, now less depress'd, walk'd with her spouse, who leading her by the hand, clos'd the procession: Yet new but innocent longings softly insinuated themselves into her heart, which he gently dispers'd. But soon a more eager desire seiz'd the juvenile minds of the women, who now long'd to see the ark, and all its various ornaments, particularly the divine paintings in the beauteous hall; and this desire SHEM encreas'd by his discourse. They no sooner reach'd the ark, than they stood astonish'd at its bulk and strength; and their amazement encreas'd, on observing the convenient disposition of the several rooms, with the immense stores of fruit, they themselves had gather'd.

Now

Now the seventh morn arose in the heavens, the day preceding that of the general destruction. Early NOAH went forth, and as soon as the sun began to tinge the eastern clouds with crimson, strew'd with profuse hand, his morning incense on the altar he himself had built, in the grove of palms, where he had heard the fatal sentence. He then summon'd his family to repair to the social chamber in the ark : On which they quit the cooling baths in their old mansion, now, for the last time us'd. The patriarch himself, stood at the foot of a broad bridge, that extended from the earth to the lower deck holding in his hand, the golden trumpet, brought from Heaven, and at three intervals, blew three long and solemn blasts.

At hearing the golden clangor, NOAH's wife and children, felt their souls rise on the swelling sound, wing'd with holy flames, divine conceptions, and illumin'd faculties. As the sublime in poetry, with heavenly energy, raises and inflames the mind with enkindling admiration, magnanimity, noble ideas, and sensations unfelt before : this the celestial melody breath'd into their souls, fill'd them with heavenly rapture, accompany'd by empassion'd gestures, and all the energy of true devotion,



devotion, not wild fanatic fire. Mean-while they held sublime discourse, extolling the mighty JUDGE; and gracious SAVIOUR, who in an instant puts a period to the triumphs of the wicked.

He himself maketh a net for his own feet, and a trap is laid in all his paths. He shall be haunted by fear, and ruin wait for him on every side. Water conceal'd in the bowels of the earth, shall spring up and overflow him. Under him the high places shall sink down, and against him shall the depths be exalted. The first born of death shall feast on his strength.—His name shall be mention'd no more.—He shall pass away like a dream: he shall vanish like the darkness of the night. Thus shall it be with him, who despises the LORD, the JUDGE of the earth: but he who trusts in him, shall not perish. He who obeys the laws of the MOST HIGH shall rejoice in His omnipotence; for in the midst of punishment, GOD remembers mercy.

In such discourse, the offspring of NOAH continu'd, rejoicing in the LORD, while, from the trumpet undulated the awful notes. It ceas'd, and lo! amaz'd they saw beast, bird, and insect flocking to the ark; some seven of each sex, and  
others



others in pairs. Among these last, THAMAR, with pleasing surprize, beheld her favourite animal, which us'd to sit purring on her lap. Of the feather'd tribe, some enter'd the ark with rapid wing, while others proceeded up the bridge, with stately step. After these came the amphibious animals some of whom wanting feet, drew themselves forward on their fins, while others, though quadrupeds, proceeded with their bellies sweeping the ground. Then came serpents, speckled, or streak'd, of various colours, with bright or dusky scales; in quick haste, they trailed their spiry volumes up the bridge, licking the dust, as if conscious of guilt, and supplicating forgiveness. Another class remain'd, these were the insects, some of size the most minute, and many to the human eye, invifible; manifold were their kinds, of colour and form most various; many adorn'd with green and gold, and every vivid tint, skimm'd the air with downy, or scaly wings, while others harbour'd on the beasts.

No living creature, which God had made, except the fish, remain'd behind, but repair'd to the ark, where living as in their native air, and proper soil, each tribe of every class, spontaneous went to their destin'd receptacles. The unwieldy elephant, the rhinoceros, the dromedary, and

and stately camel, with all of large and heavy bulk, repair'd to their recesses, in the lowest deck. The tame of smaller size distributed themselves in pens, in the middle, near the inspection of man, their friend, while the more light and agil, sought the highest part. All silent and friendly, the fierce and sanguinary, with the weak and gentle; for those at natural enmity, were now reconcil'd. Before the first human pair, had forfeited their abode in Paradise, no voracious animals, were ever known to invade the peace of that delightful spot; but the unhappy fall of man, kindled among them furious wars, even in the tranquil groves of Eden, yet there they glutted not themselves with the flesh of the slain, and to man were always harmless. Now in the ark confin'd, their awe and obedience resembled that paid to ADAM before his dreadful fall. All that at the sounding trumpets summoning blast had resorted to the ark, whether on foot or wing, came from the mount, and none from the neighbouring plains.

When all the animals had enter'd the spacious building, NOAH, entering last, push'd off the bridge, and the watchful angel clos'd the door, on which he fix'd the seal of Heaven.

JAPHETH.

JAPHETH with attentive wonder, had view'd the multitudes of animals, their various forms, and fine proportions ; and seeing with amazement each tribe voluntarily repair to its proper department, kindred with kindred, thus gave vent to his astonishment : With what words shall I express the admiration that fills my mind, at the view of the DIVINE skill, that appears in the variety and symmetry, visible in all the CREATOR's works. When I consider the hand which form'd this assemblage of beauty ; the regularity which reigns through such diversity, all as if form'd by compass, rule or sphere, a perfect chain of correspondent links ! Still more when I consider the close gradations of the successive differences and resemblances of such multitudes of creatures, all diverse, and by what imperceptible bands they approach and are connected, class with class, and tribe with tribe, I am lost in wonder and surprise ! What an admirable and amazing scene of creatures of various form ! In how many shapes does beauty appear, and how in some does it vanish and give way to what seems deformity, and almost lifeless matter ! What a difference is there between the horse and the adder ; between this last and the gilded fly,

fly, yet each is perhaps a link, necessary to compleat the chain of beings ! But still higher rises my ideas of the DIVINE skill, and higher my amazement, when I reflect, how the well form'd limbs of some express mingled life, strength, vigour, swiftness, sensation, and spirit ! How the peacock with pride expands his lovely tail ! How, alarm'd by sounds the horse listens in every limb ! How different the inclinations of every kind ! What vary'd members and organs for their use, and the gratifications of every appetite ! How completely perfect are all the works of the MOST HIGH ! no improving hand, can render the least more compleat ! The whole animal creation being now shut up in the ark with me, under my father's direction, what enjoyment will they afford me ! Never shall I here chide the day as passing with too slow a pace ; for while the destructive flood rages all around, my busy soul, with ever-new delight, will at leisure survey the various kingdoms of animal life, and all the regions of animated matter. Who thus surveys the works of creation, converses with the great CREATOR, and rising in knowledge, becomes acquainted with the DIVINE ideas.

NOAH now assigns the respective employments of his sons and daughters, at stated hours to give  
the

the food and water necessary to the support of the animals selected for preservation, and committed to their care. By the careful improvement of time, they obtain many hours for meditative retirement, social meetings, and sweet converse, in the divinely painted room.

The sun now declin'd, diffusing a mild light through the apartments in the ark. The day had pass'd agreeably, in all things like the former: Yet that very day, the chastening hand of heaven, had smote the zones, which on the other side the earth, gird this mundane globe; for there the comet first cross'd its track, and one hemisphere was forc'd to pass the comet's nebulous sweep. Wonders were then seen in the heavens and on the earth. The people look'd in vain towards the east, for the approaching light, solicitous about its delay; but instead of light, along the eastern sky, hung a sable cloud, whose thick mantle obstructed the solar rays: Under it lay the earth and sea, involv'd in the folds of night. At length the blaze of the comet, broke through the alarming gloom; but itself more terrible than the blackest darkness. Thick set with volcanos, its hideous body, rugged and unequal, pour'd forth sulphureous vapours on the trembling inhabitants



inhabitants of the astonish'd earth. In the west, appear'd the moon with its whole disk, cover'd with adventitious light, which instead of chearing the inhabitants, enhanc'd the terrors of the dreadful scene. Terrific forms heighten'd by imaginative fear, darting through the sky, seem'd to represent embattled armies, burning mountains, and plains hunted by spectres; while the birds and beasts, with hideous cries, signify'd the approach of death. At length, the sea was seen to recede from its extended shores, and collected rise to towering heights, while ocean's uncover'd bed exhibited depths profound, beyond the reach of sight. Then shook the agonizing earth, as in that unhappy hour, when EVE stretch'd forth her hand to pluck and eat the fruit: The earth then felt the deadly wound, and thro' every part, gave sign that all was lost. More strong were now the shocks from the opposite attractions of the comet and the earth; but the latter to its destruction prevail'd, and huge masses with extensive promontories torn from the comet, fell through the terrestrial atmosphere into the sea, forming islands and lofty mountains. A sky so dreadful, never hung, or shall in after times, hang over this earthly ball, till at the last great day, when flaming fire, shall consume the globe, and all nature be dissolv'd.

Already

Already the mountainous seas, weary of rising towards the comet, precipitate themselves into their bed, and overflow the shores. From the cavernous earth, is heard a hollow murmur, moving in progression dolorous, like the voice of despair. Horrid were the howlings and cries of the beasts and fowls of all kinds, wild and tame, which with mingling voices, send forth one common cry to Heaven. Men, encompass'd by the day of wrath, stand aghast, seeing death in the impending clouds, in the agitated ground, in the raging sea. Silent they look up to Heaven, silent turn their eyes to the earth. The short silence, caus'd by fear is soon broke by dismal outcries, and despairing supplications. In the cities, crowds pressing on crowds run from street to street, hunted by sorrow, and pressing through the gates, seek for safety, from the rocks and mountains. The earth now trembles as in agony, and the hills rock from side to side. A dreadful shock succeeds, and from the deepest foundations, temples, towers, and palaces, sink into ruins; and in the devastation, are lost thousands of thousand lives.

Suddenly a flash, broad as a flood, darts through the dreadful gloom, follow'd by the rolling thunder, with repercussive roar, so dreadful, that

man astonish'd, seems struck with sepulchral silence. The water vessels of the heavens now burst, and pour down torrents of rain, ever pouring and ever full. The people whom the trembling earth had spared, are now carried away by the current. Some are cast on newly form'd hills, which they climb, trembling and pale as if rising from the dead; and others, to gain a short respite from death, and protract for a few moments, a life encompass'd with horrors, cling to the trees still standing, though the waters undermine their roots. But with gigantic pace, the flood overtakes them, nor ceases, till as a garment, it covers the land from pole to pole.

Ah, how was the sinner surpriz'd in his guilt! TYDOR, who wantonly scatter'd the arrows of death in Chus, had order'd LAOMER's generous sons, to be nail'd to a cross; before their father's face; but when elated with the thoughts of beholding this cruel spectacle, vengeance came on him, and the day of wrath, seiz'd both him, and his intended victims. These had left their secret recesses, when the angelic voice, proclaim'd to the astonish'd earth, the near approach of this dreadful and important day: They with eager zeal, exhorted those who dwelt in Hamuch, to  
turn

turn to the LORD, and to save themselves by repentance from the second death; but TYDOR cast them into prison, and destin'd them to suffer martyrdom. The monarch and his prisoners were united in death by the rising waters; but with this important difference, they were remov'd from a miserable life to the regions of permanent felicity, while he was to suffer in the dreary regions of sad despair, where the worm never dies.

ASDOD was also prevented by the flood from executing his impious command, to throw ABDON to the lions. ABDON had laid to heart the words of NOAH, and often to the king of Masis, represented that the GOD, who created mankind, and was equally the father of all his offspring, was no respecter of persons; that he delights in mercy, and is not propitiated by the blood of those, who being created fallible, fall into error. ASDOD, amidst the foaming surge, implor'd the help of the GOD, whom he had aveng'd. But his fate was the fate of TYDOR: He had harden'd his heart against the sweet and gentle voice of humanity, and was carry'd to the regions where mercy is unknown.

The land every where mourn'd, and the waters were cover'd with the dead. The meads where spring so lately sat, dress'd in her gayest attire; where the flowers diffus'd their fragrance, and the birds their melody; silent droop'd, and all its beauty dy'd under the flood. Mean-while the comet disengag'd itself from the attraction of the earth; but not without the loss of its waters; and now pursu'd its course, with diminish'd atmosphere.

THE END OF THE EIGHTH BOOK





The approach of the deluge in that hemi-  
sphere where Paradise was placed, and the be-  
haviour of the Ishmaelites. THE

# NINTH BOOK

balls in which he returns with the giants from  
performing some idle rites, when they  
hear the war pronounced by the angel. The  
different effects it produces in the minds of the



N O A H.

ships from the approaching deluge. Its delay  
fills the people with wretched mind. Its ap-  
proach and progress described, with the be-  
haviour of the people of Thamar, and the  
confusion of Oo in the ship. The employ-  
ment and reflections of Noah's family in the

## THE ARGUMENT.

The approach of the deluge in that hemisphere where Paradise was plac'd, and the behaviour of the inhabitants of Thamista. The opinions of the priests in relation to the comet. OG who had succeeded DAGON in the office of high priest, causes a spacious vessel to be built, in which he returns with the giants from performing some idolatrous rites, when they hear the woe pronounced by the angel. The different effects it produces on the minds of the people. OG advises the giants instantly to store the vessel with provisions, and save themselves from the approaching deluge. Its delay fills the people with wanton mirth. Its approach and progress described, with the behaviour of the people of Thamista, and the destruction of OG in the ship. The employments and reflections of NOAH's family in the ark.



# N O A H.

## B O O K IX.

**T**HE day replete with terror thus ravag'd  
one hemisphere with an universal flood  
and desolation : But Assur and the smiling groves  
of Eden, the divine justice spar'd till the last,  
Relate, O muse ! how the raging waves found  
the opulent Thamista, and her guilty inhabitants ;  
tell how the storm pass'd over NOAH, and how  
his Heaven-plann'd vessel, rose on the waves,  
which destroy'd mankind, their splendid cities,  
and even the Paradise of GOD, once the seat of  
innocence.

Thamista, the royal residence of the giants, had, since DAGON's fall, with unanimous voice rais'd OG to the hierarchal throne, and invested his anointed head, with a triple tiara. Daily smok'd the altar of Destiny, with human victims, that his gods allur'd by the smell, might deign to return. Meanwhile NOAH's prediction did not fall to the ground; it had lodg'd in the hearts of the boastful giants, and ceas'd not to alarm them, while in the arms of voluptuousness and lawless pleasure. But terrors still more dreadful, invaded their minds, at seeing the comet with daily growth, advancing, and its waving tail, blazing through half the heavens. Their priests labour'd to dispel their fears, and sometimes represented it, as form'd by the exhalations of the earth and sea, drawn up by the solar beams to the higher region of the air, where it remain'd suspended. They then represented it, as the fragments of a star in the milky way, join'd in one mass, but wanting a regular orbit, wander'd in erratic course, about the starry heavens. At last they affirm'd, it was a floating land, a celestial vehicle, containing ADramelech and his renown'd attendants, with auxiliary gods, coming in awful state, to their assistance, that if some angelic spirit, enemies to their power, should  
pour

pour an ocean of water over the earth, they might take up their worshippers, and carry them away in triumph.

This absurd declaration, was accompany'd by new rites, to engage the patronage of the ruling spirits of the Perath and Hidekel, streams esteem'd divine. After the model of the stately ship, form'd by ADramelech, for invading the mountain from the air, Og caus'd to be built, a vessel of monstrous size, with many cabbins, into which, he himself went, rob'd in his priestly vestments of shining white, attended by the princes of the gigantic race, in regal state. In this vessel, they sail'd to the rapid streights, where the Perath and Hidekel, mingled their waters. The shores were cover'd with jocund multitudes; every head was crown'd with a chaplet of flowers; and all had issu'd from the hundred gates of Thamista. Here, having cast anchor, Og sacrific'd an hecatomb of camels, another of elephants, and a third of lions, to the spirit of the rivers. These rites being ended, he embrac'd an image of the splendid Thamista, of cast gold, and of an enormous size, then throwing it into the water, utter'd this idle invocation:



Rise Perath and Hidekel, ye confluent deities,  
arise from your crystal retreats, to receive Thamiſta, your bride, who, enamour'd, lays herself  
down in your arms, proteſting fidelity to  
you. She in her turn expects reciprocal truth.  
Cease not your endearments on your flowery  
ſhores.

When the image fell into the water, crouds  
of ſlaves plung'd into the tranſlucent ſtream;  
and ſome of theſe, inſtructed by the high prieſt,  
affirm'd, with ſolemn adjurations, that they ſaw  
the river god, riſe above the water to receive his  
bride.

OG returning to the temple in his ſuperb  
veſſel, with all the insolence of prieſtly ſtate; a  
voice of thunder denouncing woe, roll'd along  
the ſerene ſky, and at once ſilenc'd their idolatrous joy; for at that inſtant the angel of death  
flew over the guilty domes of Thamiſta, with  
encreaſing roar, proclaiming his tremendous meſ-  
ſage. Now all trembled, ſtruck with terror,  
the giants no leſs than the abject croud. Then  
were ſeen the different effects cauſ'd by the view  
of approaching death. Some of SETH's lineage,  
who had been infected with the contagion of pre-  
vailing

vailing vice and error, turn'd to the LORD ; in sackcloth confess'd their transgressions ; strew'd dust on their heads, and with impassion'd sighs of heart-felt contrition, implor'd forgiveness : But lost among the herd of sinners, to GOD alone, were these penitents known. In vain the sages strove to frustrate the predicted flood, which rais'd such terrors, that they now trembled, at what they had before ridicul'd as fabulous and impossible, while others drown'd in sensual excesses, suppress'd the fear of death. Their tables were loaded with delicious viands, wine sparkled in gold and crystal goblets ; on flowery beds they slept inebriated, lull'd by the mingled melody of the voice, the harp and lute. Amidst their revelry they made a jest both of life and death ; representing that as consisting of agreeable phantoms, the produce of the sportive brain, no sooner embrac'd than gone. But OG was violently agitated between doubt and fear. The flood after three rapid days, being to make its approach, he dispatch'd messengers to the chief of the giants, RIMNON and GOG, PEREZ MAMMON, and BILDAD, advising them hastily to store the ship with corn, wine and cattle, and to save themselves in this vessel, from the impending deluge. The giants applauded the wisdom, which, they imagin'd, had found an infallible expedient,

expedient, that would prevent the approaching destruction, and instantly follow'd the advice he gave.

Now from heaven descended the evening of the sixth day, the last which they imagin'd was granted to the sinful earth. In the night preceding the direful morn, that was expected to involve all the people in the lasting sleep of death, none in crouded Thamista, sought the refreshment of balmy rest. Gloomy anxiety, without any glimpse of hope, hover'd over the hours. Amidst these perturbations, rises the seventh morn ; its noon came, and gave way to the grey evening, when the angel clos'd the ark. This day unexpectedly rising in luminous attire, and in its progress all serene, brought on its wings the hope of life ; and with it return'd presumptuous impiety, which before appall'd, had crept into the inmost recesses of their hearts, and there lay coil'd. Then an impious wretch, who had been struck with terror, with scarce recover'd speech, thus address'd his companion.

Thou must be speedy, unless thou art resolv'd to die before repentance ; this mighty flood, the subject of so much discourse, will soon be at our heels, and then farewell earth and people. But  
he

he who was charg'd to demolish the banks of the ocean, has perhaps loiter'd away his time, in some more agreeable amusement, or finds it more difficult than he suppos'd. Indeed it is no easy task, to assemble the waters of the sea, and pour them over the land. What if his voice cannot pervade the depth of the abyss of waters, or they should refuse to rise at his command.

With sneering accent, the other reply'd, The sea perhaps will not afford him water enough to cover the land and its mountains; and he will be oblig'd to visit the moon for a supply. If he be gone thither, we shall not drink water in haste; therefore lest we thirst before the sea is pour'd out to us; let us crown ourselves with roses, and exhilarate our hearts with wine; soon will it inspire us with resolution, and thus enliven'd we shall look down with contempt on these dreams of Death and Hell.

Thus discours'd the giddy fools; but soon alas! was their wanton ridicule chang'd to dismal outcries, and their sneering looks to sad dismay. When night, close following the dim evening, descended from the firmament, a subterraneous murmur was heard rolling from south to west, thrice feverish tremblings shook the earth: the  
mountain

mountain and its lofty peaks rock'd tremulous : the spacious plain swell'd into a hill, which bursting sent forth sulphureous fumes, while dreadful sounds roll'd along the agitated air, like the conjoin'd force of a thousand thunders. Now from the mounts disrupted womb fluid columns rush upwards and in dense clouds spread over the sable sky ; and now with harsh roar, the darting streams pour from the heavens, dreadful as a shower of mountainous rocks. Soon was the atmosphere fill'd with clouds impell'd by raging whirlwinds, close compacted in thick confusion, and blacker than the night. To those who were secure in the ark, the sight was dreadful, but to those who stood on the land, it was the front of Death. Lo, the loud thunder separates the connected clouds, and in floods they fall on the trembling earth, disfiguring the fields and sandy plains, with gaping furrows, torn up by the raging torrents. Then dy'd before their birth, Derision, Raillery and Laughter. A dizzy gloom o'erclouds the eyes, and death-like paleness deadens the ruddy cheek.

All Thamista now stand staring with silent horror and stupid despair. On whom should they call ? On the LORD, whom they had rejected ? On SATAN, who delights in human victims ?



victims? Or on Destiny, which is but an empty name? They ring their hands; they prostrated themselves on the wet earth; they beat their breasts. Alas, these were only abject lamentations, inspir'd by fear! Whither should they fly? Into the streets and open places, the swelling floods pour'd in torrents. In a festive hall before the temple of Destiny, the floor burst, and upwards towards the sky, rose a column of compress'd water; and having reach its height, fell on the city, in a rapid deluge, with a noise louder than the explosion of a whole battery planted by the murderous hand of war. The torrents in the fields, rush'd with such impetuosity, that forests, rocks and houses, were driven before them.

The ensuing day, if that name may be given to the sickly gleam, which with difficulty pierc'd through the clouds, Thamista from its battlements beheld with languid eye, the view of death, and wild desolation spread all around: beheld the rivers which had before delightfully water'd the smiling land now confin'd in one wide lake, extending farther than the eye could reach. The flood had already overspread the plains, and was gaining the hills, while man, beast and fowl, with vain efforts, lay struggling on  
its

its overwhelming surface. Where the rich orchards rear'd their lofty tops; where fruitful autumn bent under the waving ear, where the vine with purple clusters adorn'd the side long hill, or the lofty cedar, cast its lengthen'd waving shade, is spread a general inundation, and drown'd lie herbs, plants and flowers; the lofty trees and fragrant groves, with all their bloom, and all their odours dead. The affrighted birds with feeble pinions skim the thickening clouds, and fly from tree to tree, and hill to hill; till the impetuous storms whirl them round and dash them in the deep. The sturdy elephant and lusty bull, trembling, skim the impetuous waves, and swimming rise above the swelling surge in vain. Alas! the birds of the air, the beasts of the forest and the field, with man, the lord of the creation, finding all their efforts ineffectual, die immers'd even as the reptile; all drink death in the water, mingled by the comet, with  
with resin, nitre and sulphur.

Now was the city encompass'd by the prevailing flood, and the lustre of its structures of polish'd marble, amidst the turbid deep, resembled the silver moon, in a gloomy sky. Within its walls, death had shut up its choicest victims. The waters daily rose; daily the people

ple saw their fate approaching nearer, and felt a lingering death. They beheld the swelling flood force its way into their bolted chambers, or pursue them to the lofty roof. Some made the summits of the pyramids their refuge, and wishing for death, fled its approach: with bitterest lamentations, they sought the securest places, crying, O ye walls, ye towers, fall on us! ye waters from above, Ye waters of the abyss, cover us! thro' all eternity cover us! Never let us more know life and light!—But the wailings of sinners, did not arrest the swelling flood.

In the mean time, OG and his confidents, fill'd with dismay, embark'd in the capacious vessel; and with them their wives, their children, and near relations, peculiarly dear, though amidst the general confusion, many were lost. The first night they pass'd at anchor, under the walls, with dejected looks, all silent and torpid with fear, but soon the flood carry'd them into the open country, now a sea. Their sails were rent, their masts broke; the vessel now bounded over the swelling waves; it mounted up to the clouds; it rush'd down into the deep; then rose the sport of every wind. Chill horror seiz'd the heart of OG and his associates, and all their confidence vanish'd. Helpless they stood amidst the  
raging,

raging storm, while the rain in torrents fell, the thunder rolling tremendous, with aggravated roar, mingling peal on peal, and livid lightnings darting through the clouds, and blazing all around. By the pale quivering gleam they at length espy'd rais'd high on lofty columns the colossal statue of Destiny, an idol much ador'd, once their hope and confidence; but now its head struck off by the pointed lightning, and sunk into the waves. Stupid they gaz'd with dumb dismay; then sunk beneath the foaming waves, as to the depths of Hell; but rising soon on the back of the swelling surge, again saw the trunk of their helpless idol, to which they had long offer'd human victims, and being driven by the howling winds they struck upon it, when both the ship and the idol being dash'd into a thousand pieces, they sunk into the deep, now their watery grave.

To the righteous, whom God had preserv'd in the ark, not unseen had the floods issu'd from Eden's burking springs; not unheard, had the subterraneous murmur roll'd; not unfelt the shocks which heav'd the globe.

They had observ'd the black clouds advance, impell'd by storms, and overspreading the dark-  
en'd

en'd land, discharge themselves in precipitate streams: but the comet, the source of all, was conceal'd by the fable clouds; and, unseen, bent its course, towards the path of Mercury, rejoicing in its escape. Long had the flood to rise, ere it reach'd that part of the mountain on which the ark was built: for it stood on an eminence, the height of which exceeded that of the pyramids, those mountains rais'd by human toil. Close to the side of a rising rock was it built, whose top projecting, fence'd the important vessel, the waters from above streaming over it, in glassy sheets. Thus shelter'd, it stood secure from the raging winds and battering rain. Within no light appear'd, for the sun's chearful rays were intercepted by the teeming clouds, which blended day with night, except where pendant lamps, hanging from the lofty cieling, supply'd the absence of the sun.

Thus secure, they with placid tranquillity, attended the great trust committed to their care, the preservation of the animal creation. Nor was it laborious. Of the cattle, some they themselves attended, others by instinct took their proper aliment, in moderate quantity, while others lock'd up in sleep, requir'd no attendance. All silent and gentle kept their place, while the  
stimulations



stimulations of love, in fowl and beast, were suspended. The precious hours this favour'd family gain'd by a wise œconomy of time, they joyfully seiz'd for praise-worthy purposes; and each morn and evening heard their grateful hymns to their gracious DELIVERER, who had promis'd to transport them over the watry waste, into a land that should be the heritage of their descendants. All were tranquil, all rely'd on the sure promise of the MOST HIGH; and not the least doubt enter'd their hearts. Oft the brothers and sisters interchang'd their embraces, and pleasing gratulations on their deliverance, and present felicity, then blaming their inadequate expressions, renew'd their pious endearments.

Here in the ark, my dear sisters, said THAMAR, we are indeed more closely confin'd, but not more solitary than in the groves of Paradise; for we were there more forlorn, ere we knew our dear companions, who, though we were created for them, were to us unknown. Our mansion, 'tis true, was in the most lovely spot of the creation, amidst flowers and plants of the most glowing colours, and sweetest odours: Yet those colours were inanimate, and those odours speechless: They were capable, indeed, of giving us pleasure,

sure, and suggesting new ideas; but not of receiving pleasure from us. Not much fitter for our company, not more beneficial, was the society of the animated works of the great CREATOR; their faces are bent to the earth, and their perceptions, their faculties, far inferior to ours. Oh how tedious, how burthensome, was that solitude, when we felt that our tender hearts, were form'd for love—felt in our impassion'd breasts, all the power of sensibility, while proper objects of our affection, we could no where see! These we here enjoy, and have worthy friends who deserve all that profusion of tenderness it is in our power to bestow—Oh what can be sweeter than the exertion of this tenderness? Thus, we have here those of whom we are are most fond, and this renders the ark to us, a little world. Nor are we here entirely depriv'd of Paradise: We have brought from thence, plenty of its fruit, fair to the eye, and grateful to the taste and smell: For us they still diffuse their odours, and display their beauties. Still KERENHAPUCH's carnation glows, and the only plant now in bloom, blooms for us. The plants which still exist in the deep, have lost all their beauty, and exhal'd their odours among the turbid waters. Above all, how delightfully does this living canvass, form'd by  
some

some celestial hand, supply the loss of the lovely flooded meads by animated tints, and a thousand nameless beauties, arising from painted light and shade! Here we see angels and men, who appear alive, with whom we, in a manner converse, and in part understand their meaning.

In the mean time the days pass'd over, if that name be due to a faint twilight, succeeding the darkness of night. The flood continu'd to rise; the ark floated; and the lower cliffs of the mountains sinking, the whole was reduc'd to a plain. The destruction continu'd forty days, during which a continual torrent fell from the clouds. At length the violence of these first rains ceas'd, serenity gradually spread through the less agitated air, and the resplendent rays of the sun play'd on the glittering deep. The ark then floated along the liquid plain. How astonish'd were NOAH's offspring at seeing the watery waste; an immense sea without a shore, bounded only by the distant sky! Amaz'd they gaz'd around. Then collecting their scatter'd thoughts, consider'd all before them as the wide field of carnage, in which death sat triumphant; as the desolation of the whole earth; the extinction of every species that lay dead in the waters,

ters, especially of the human, form'd by the CREATOR half terrestrial, and half divine ; now at once surpriz'd by death in the midst of their sins, the aged and the young, the children and their father, the mother and the bride, all overflow'd and mingled in one common grave. They now saw that all hopes of retrieving this amazing chasm in the creation, rested only on the few beings inclos'd in the ark. Not the hand of death itself could have struck NOAH and his sons with greater horror than this spectacle. But recollection soon brought to their minds the idea that the justice of the ETERNAL had been guided by infinite wisdom and goodness in this desolation ; and had graciously decreed their exemption from the general slaughter. Yet pity and commiseration gently seiz'd their hearts, and their minds sympathiz'd in the sufferings of the drown'd.

Now the emotions which swell'd their breasts dissolv'd in a gush of tears, and even NOAH's resign'd virtue, was seen to weep. HAM, of firm and steady mind, whose cheeks were hardly ever wet with those gentle kindly drops, now wept like the tender THAMAR : he strove in vain to restrain his tears, and not being able to keep them back, endeavour'd to conceal them with his hand. His father concern'd at beholding his in-  
ward

ward conflict, call'd him to him, and thus address'd the silent youth.

Oh be not ashamed, said he, of these tender emotions; check not the generous flow—their source is deriv'd from the CREATOR. Men at their birth, He who his goodness itself, bound to each other by bands of love, and united by the tender sympathies of humanity and friendship. Art thou then for breaking the band which unites man to man, that thou and thine offspring centering all their affections in themselves, may not mourn a calamity, in which they are not involv'd? no, discard the ungenerous thought; the sorrow felt at the woes of our fellow creatures, is not so insupportable, that to avoid it, thou shouldst tear in sunder the gentle bands of nature. Oh, it betrays a mind too selfish and unfeeling to shrink from the soft pain of human sympathy! The distinguishing excellence of a great mind, is universal benevolence, and the most exquisite sensations flow from the consideration, that man was created for man; and hence the all-gracious CREATOR, has mingled the most ravishing sweetness, with the gentle tears of humanity.

Thus all wept and awhile indulg'd the blest relief of tears. Then HAM reply'd, How dark  
and



and intricate are the ways of the LORD ! age and youth, with the harden'd slave to sin, fall equally mingled with the guiltless infant, in one common ruin. How severe does this seem to him, who with weak eye, pries into the depths of Providence, which are so profound, that nothing can be discern'd. Confounded and amaz'd, we acknowledge the ALMIGHTY, adoring that justice which cannot err, and is always conducted by wisdom and goodness :

NOAH answer'd : Dost thou HAM think it severe that punishment confounds youth and age, innocence and guilt ? Perhaps a thousand virtuous persons have not perish'd—Perish'd do I say ? I ought rather to have said, kindly reliev'd from the miseries of life, from the snares, the persecutions and terrors of a wicked world, and plac'd in a state where sinners can no longer torment, and where all is endless peace and unutterable joy. As to the infants, happy are they in being deliver'd from the examples of their parents. In that theatre, which GOD fills with His infinitude, there are innumerable worlds, where those may enjoy a blissful eternity, who early quit this mortal life before they have attain'd mature virtue, or by the accidents and calamities common to man, have linger'd

out a tedious length of years in affliction and distress. This world, O my son, affords not the proper rewards of virtue ; these will be dispens'd with a liberal hand, in a better world. There is what nothing on earth can give, or can destroy, sun-shine in the soul, tranquillity and joy most rapturous and sublime !

Thus spake NOAH, and thus many ages later, thought the bard who rang'd o'er all the scenes of man. Oft on wings of fire, he soar'd towards Heaven, and explor'd the wonders of Divine Providence. Be not surpriz'd, O POPE and YOUNG, ye glories of an island rich in genius, that NOAH and SIPHA, should think and speak like you ; from the same avenues to truth, they were not excluded ; for to them also the source of truth was open, and where ye drew, they likewise drew the clear celestial stream.

THE END OF THE NINTH BOOK.

THE  
TENTH BOOK  
OF  
NOAH.

## THE ARGUMENT.

The destruction of the fishes. The angel of death conveys the soul of sinners to one of the moons which enlightens a planet of immense magnitude. The souls of the infants are conducted to the sun, and the penitents to Heaven. NOAH is visited by RAPHAEL, who gives him an account of some of those happy souls ~~he had been conducting to Heaven,~~ but leaves him to satisfy the doubts of LAMECH, who has descended to the sun, and in vain endeavours to discover the earth. LAMECH there discourses with the spirit of his youngest child who died in his infancy. He is joined by RAPHAEL who answers his doubts, and then returning to NOAH, informs him of the person LAMECH had seen: NOAH is enraptured at his discourse. LAMECH returning to Heaven, sees in a small moon myriads of spirits, one of whom he awakes, and obliges him to tell his history, and then returns to Heaven. The comet again approaches the earth with a fresh deluge.



# N O A H.

## B O O K X.

**I**MAGINATION, sister of the muse, creation's intimate associate, when thou fittest brooding, from thy warm influence, mingled forms arise, surrounding thee their mother, and following where thou leadst the way; whether into thine own land, the region of solitary silence; or the lovely grove, dedicated to contemplation sweet. Then hill and vale swarm with airy shapes: Heaven to thee displays her flaming seraphs, and from the infernal abyss, fell monsters rise. Oh to me unfold thy creative power!



yet not sufficient is it for thee to produce thine airy band, nor for them to hover round me in numbers tumultuous, if the muse observes not with intelligent eye, and with assiduous care, does not select thy choicest offspring.

Beasts, birds and insects, destroy'd by one blow, stopp'd not the greedy jaws of Death, who hasted to the deep to gratify his insatiate appetite on the finny race, and multitudes who liv'd in water, dy'd in the foaming waves. Some perish'd in the slime, entangled as in nets, hence their teeth, their bones, their skeletons, are found in the flaky slate, or bury'd in lands, far distant from the shore. Others escap'd not the concussions that tore up the bottom of the watery deep; or were dash'd in pieces in the eddies of circumvolving whirlpools. For, by the CREATOR's order, no more escap'd than suffic'd to renew the several species. Then in vain, the enormous whale, spouted streams into the ambient air; in vain lashing the foaming flood, he rais'd mountainous waves; his ample fins and spreading tail, could no relief afford. NOAH's family saw his convulsive throws, and beheld his struggles with death, till spent he turn'd lifeless on his back.

Now

Now the floating receptacle of man swam under the vault of the northern sky. The atmosphere was serene, and the deep being only mov'd by a gentle gale, a long furrow strew'd with glittering light mark'd its track. Fishes of strange appearance arm'd with swords, rose to the surface of the deep; and others with extended fins flew in the air to avoid the crushing fall of the hills, which frequently cover'd the sea around with circling eddies, and boiling foam. Some of the fish leapt above the water, and sportive play'd about the ark, as if to attract the eye of man, and solicit his regard. Several of these the women would have sav'd; but the ark was clos'd by the seal of GOD, and no inhabitant of the sea was to enter there.

Whatever, said NOAH, is appointed for life, this floating mansion already contains; and however the falling earth and waters be intermix'd, or whatever dangers the fishes suffer from the falling rocks, the DELIVERER will direct such numbers to their secure abodes, that the lives of many shall be spar'd, and when the limits of the land and sea shall be again determin'd, neither sea nor river shall want its inhabitants.

In the confines of the starry sky, where old Night and Chaos strangers to the creative word,

incessant roar, is a solitary moon, of seven moons the most remote; these roll round a planet of magnitude immense, on which the sun shines with languid beams. To this moon flew the angel of death, and with him, the disembodied souls of sinners, where alighting, they cover'd the whole surface with a pale Cimerian gloom. As in western Thule, flights of emigrant birds, innumerable steer through the pathless air, their CREATOR their unerring guide, and clapping their wings, alight, covering the rocks and mountains, where they erect their transitory domains: Thus flew these wan spectres, and thus clapp'd their sounding wings. But while they lay amidst the benumbing frost, this sentence is thunder'd forth, Ye spirits impure, shall lie in the sleep of death, while the earth shall last, till the mighty trumpet shall awake you to a second judgment. Then the angel of death, striking them with his ebon wand, they sunk down. How unlike this, was the fate of those souls who had newly enter'd their infant bodies. and whom the flood surpriz'd ere they were ripen'd into thought! These the angel bore into the luminous zones of the sun, and there open'd to their ravish'd view, celestial knowledge, and heavenly love. But far above the terrestrial sun RAPHAEL carry'd those, who mature in understanding,

standing, at the first appearance of the deluge, had turn'd to God, and on whom he had deign'd to smile.

Vested in crimson, adorn'd with streams of light, pass'd fifteen genial days, brightening the fields of liquid air, and diffusing fresh spirits into the men, beasts and birds in the ark. This was the gracious CREATOR's will, and of this they had need ; for soon were the loaded clouds again fill'd, soon did they darken the azure sky, and soon were tempests again to rend the air ; for the comet with a swifter motion than that of the moon, hastening through the solar region, seem'd leaving the heavens, when on reaching the constellation Aries, it suddenly turn'd, and with equal velocity hasted back to the spaces on this side the sun. It now approach'd the earth, its disk and fiery tail, increasing, threaten'd the globe with new oceans. Not without apprehensions, yet with tranquil reliance on their DIVINE PROTECTOR, who had hitherto cover'd them, with his almighty wings, NOAH and his family, beheld the dreadful sight.

Over the ark, hover'd the benevolent RAPHAEL in a celestial pavilion of ethereal clouds ; of web invisible, and for human eyes too fine:

On this pavilion fell no rain, and immoveable amidst the boisterous storms, a celestial effulgence excluded all darkness. Oft did he enter the ark, and stand visible before NOAH, in the apartment to which he retir'd at noon. Shrouded by the darkness of an human form, he thus sat by our father, honouring him with angelic converse. Then soar'd man up to the lowest thoughts of angels, and the angel descended to human sublimity. His presence was not conceal'd from NOAH's family; oft did they hear the melody of his voice: often did they perceive his looks benign; but restrain'd by sacred awe, either stood at a distance, or pursu'd their daily occupations, in distributing provisions to the animals committed to their care, or in washing those in large vessels, who divide their lives between the land and water.

RAPHAEL now came array'd in the lustre of the morning to NOAH, who was in the room adorn'd with prophetic paintings, where he was praying to that Power, who had built him a house on the floods. The angel stood in reverential silence, till NOAH arose from his knees, and then sat down on a sofa by his side. Needless would it have been for him to have desir'd his attention to his discourse,

This



'This morning, O NOAH, said he, I return'd from the empyreum, where JEHOVAH has erected his throne. Rapid was my flight, that the ark might not long be left alone, though during my absence the omnipotent eye of GOD was upon it. In proceeding thither, I, by the Divine command, conducted to the assembly of the fathers in the highest Heavens, those souls who in a world of profligate sinners, reverenc'd the MOST HIGH, and persever'd in the practice of virtue, for on them he had graciously look'd down, and from them turn'd not his face, though he permitted them to be involv'd with sinners, in the destroying flood. Virtue cannot deliver from the stroke of death; but higher rewards await her, than earth can bestow. A multitude, obscure and unknown, but precious in the eye of GOD, and by him alone observ'd, collected from all regions, assembled about me from the deep, where they had been detain'd by the body, and sleeping were solac'd with beatific visions. Amongst them were some of the descendants of SETH, whose consciences awaken'd by the red comet's fiery blaze, reviv'd in their minds the almost effac'd ideas of virtue, and of the REDEEMER, who should crush the head of the serpent, and looking up to GOD, had with deep contrition

contrition and sincerity of heart, implor'd pardon and illumination. Others, a nobler band, who had offer'd no victims to the infernal monarch, who had not acknowledg'd a blind Destiny, nor bow'd the knee to idols ; who, instead of being slaves to appetite, were unmov'd by the examples of the wicked, and faithful to the LORD their Maker : their chief care being to approve themselves to the MOST HIGH : They had bravely borne, for the cause of truth, the mockery of the giddy people, and the implacable hatred of the idolatrous priests. Among my charge, I discover'd and embrac'd LAOMER and his worthy sons, who will no longer feel the persecutor's rage, and for whom are reserv'd crowns of everlasting glory. At the head of this select band, I gently flew, while they follow'd me, without weariness, and some I took on my protecting wings.

Next to these flew with vigorous wing several refin'd souls ; THIRZA, a poor laborious widow, who spent her life with innocence and purity. She was pious, upright and resign'd : She subsisted by spinning, weigh'd the yarn she delivered with honest care, and the mean reward of her industry, shar'd among her six children.

HASEM

HASEM seem'd born for ELIZA, her inclination to virtue, and her taste for moral beauty, promis'd him golden days, but to another she had given her hand. His love was therefore dangerous to virtue, and in a dissolute age, when invested with power to accomplish his wishes, he bravely resolv'd to see her no more; and thus by a generous effort, deliver'd his soul from perdition.

ELIPHAS had been entrusted by the dying SYCHEM with three thousand pieces of gold, which he was to deliver to HELIM. No witness was present; no acknowledgment given; and HELIM besides being immensely rich, and extremely voluptuous, was his inveterate enemy. ELIPHAS labour'd under extreme indigence, and that sum would have been the source of earthly prosperity, while his appropriating it to his own use, must to man have remain'd a secret, yet ELIPHAS confiding in the providence of the MOST HIGH, deliver'd the entrusted sum to HELIM, and continu'd to eat the bread of care; for no distress could shake his inflexible probity.

SALMON,

SALMON, a slave in the bloom of youth, eagerly spurn'd the kisses obtruded on him by lips breathing the fragrance of spring. He bridled his own warm desires, from obedience to the commands of his CREATOR, and his reverence for the marriage bed of a tyrannic master. Thrice had he broke from her wanton arms, till bound in chains, she forc'd him to receive her dangerous embraces, when the swelling surge breaking in upon them, he rejoic'd in his deliverance.

HELAZ and ADA saw their most amiable son, who was suckled by the breast of virtue, expire. SUAH was like a young tree, planted by the purling brook, whose branches spread over the water. His bloom of life, produc'd the fruit of age, and in him breath'd the Divine Spirit. They hop'd that his years would have been prolong'd till the coming of the MESSIAH, that he might attend and serve him ; but death laid low this new blown flower. While they were lamenting him, the sluices of the abyfs were open'd, and embracing each other, they with pleas'd serenity, receiv'd the flood, rejoicing that they should ascend to the regions of light, and join their beloved son.

The

The hospitable SOBAC had expended half his substance in the generous offices of humanity. In the lonely darkness of the night, and when the piercing east wind blew, he receiv'd and entertain'd the stranger. The necessitous visited SOBAC, and went away rejoicing. At length wretches in the disguise of poverty, robb'd him of the other half. Not a single complaint escap'd him. Rid of the earthly load, said he, my soul shall soar with lighter wings: I am only concern'd that the food of the indigent and the stranger, is taken from me. May the MOST-HIGH, whom, with grateful heart, I will ever adore, take me to himself, since my business in life is now over, and my office of giving relief to others is expir'd. SOBAC then perceiv'd the rising flood, and joyfully welcom'd its approach.

IRA had two brothers born of her mother, the daughter of JARAD. All three had one heart, that glow'd with the hope of the salvation to be accomplish'd by the seed of the woman. The brothers lay chain'd in prison with robbers: They were sentenc'd to be burnt by the consuming flames, for their magnanimity in boldly acknowledging, before the assembled worshippers



pers of Orchus, their faith in the promis'd SAVIOUR, and execrating SATAN and ADRA-MELECH. They taught the robbers to know the conqueror of SATAN, and while praising GOD were deliver'd by the waters of the deluge.

ABDON one of the people who, in Mafis had bound thee, O NOAH, had at the menace of the threatening comet, reflected on thine admonitions, and becoming sensible of his sins, humbled himself before the ALMIGHTY, and preach'd the approaching judgment. He bravely utter'd the truth even before ASDOD, declaring that the murderous sword, and the anguish of torture can never instruct the understanding—never lead to piety and virtue—never be agreeable to that gracious Being who delights in mercy. ASDOD heard him and was enrag'd; he caus'd him to be loaded with irons; he confin'd him in prison, and order'd that he should be thrown to the lions; but the floods came and overwhelm'd both the martyr and the tyrant.

HUSAN receiv'd an injury, but the person who injur'd him that night met with affliction, and the next day HUSAN sent him relief. His delight was to forgive. He subdu'd the envious  
by

by his lenity, and evil-doers by his kindness. The wife of HUSAN lay bound with the cords of ignorance; she was good when the tranquil blood enforc'd goodness, and like a tame beast, was mild and gentle thro' weakness. But HUSAN's soul, triumphant stretch'd its pinions. He discover'd that virtue being founded on beauty and harmony, is endu'd with attractive charms. Thus was his virtue built on knowledge, and his liberality flow'd from reflection. In the silent hour of meditation would he cry, How sweet, O virtue, are thine engaging beauties! I am enamour'd with thine excellence, and my delights are those of the SUPREME SOURCE OF GOODNESS. This already pours a settled complacency over my mind.—But what an infinite fund of felicity must be contain'd in the knowledge of that great BEING who is the uncreated FOUNTAIN of order; beauty and harmony, and of the wisdom visible in all His various works! in thy refulgence O sun! in thy flowery bosom O earth! But from all my enquires, such knowledge is precluded. Oh that I was acquainted with the comprehensive powers of the human mind, and all the various orders of beings that fill up that immense distance between God and me! How much is my knowledge confin'd to the sons of the dust?

dust ? How much am I a stranger to the ways of the MOST HIGH, and His dealings with mankind ? Tho' to my ever-attentive ear, there is no sound in the creation that does not speak of GOD ; my eyes which receive His light, and range through the earth and sky, every where see something of Him. Oh how I fear some fatal offence has induc'd Him to turn His face from man ; He hides Himself, and we grope in darkness. But when my soul shall shake off this encumbering flesh, I shall surely see and know Him better : His bright irradiations will then disperse the clouds of ignorance and folly that now hover round me, and I shall then be taught to worship and adore Him as I ought. These were his pleasing hopes, when the rising flood deliver'd him from his house of clay, and now he lives in the bless'd region, where pure knowledge flows in upon him in a perpetual stream, and where enraptur'd, he enjoys the beatific vision.

With this precious charge, and other noble minds, I proceeded to the Heaven of Heavens, and there having array'd them in glory, conducted them to the embraces of ADAM. LAMECH thy father was not among the other patriarchs  
then

then with the father of men. He had long entertain'd a desire to visit this globe, that he might see the deliverance of thee his son. This LAMECH communicated to ADAM, who on this account besought the LORD, and in the divine look, both saw his permission. LAMECH had therefore set out alone, taking his way through the starry heavens. His flight exceeds that of the wing'd lightening, but is less swift than that of the angels, which keeps pace with the sunbeams. I have seen him in his way through the still wilds of ether, between suns innumerable, with their attendant worlds: a sight stupendously magnificent! Knowing the fix'd star, which enlightens this earth, he with unweary'd wings, hastens to it, and gently hovering, alights at URIEL's residence. That angel is not now there; but is gone with an angelic train that rule over the sun, and the regions within its orbit, to the opposite side of that luminous body, on account of the near approach of the comet. These celestial spirits also instruct the souls which resort thither, in bodies not form'd of the dust, but all in essential beauty dress'd; their substance interwoven light, by skill unsearchable adapted to their use, and fitted to bear the solar flame, rejoicing in that light to human eye

eye insupportable ; while they see and feel what escapes thy grosser senses. LAMECH now stands on a tower, conversing with the inhabitants of the sun, URIEL's friends, and thence looks down on the solar system, sees the path where rolls the abode of man, beyond the circle of Phosphorus, to this earth the harbinger of day ; sees also the Moon's silver disk, yet in vain seeks the earth, which is obscur'd. I perceive him darting his eye around, I must therefore leave thee to remove his solicitude, and inform him of thy preservation.

RAPHAEL then ascended towards the sun, where the radiant inhabitants stood conversing with LAMECH, who appear'd visible amidst the radiant brightness, though he had veil'd his celestial effulgence as too strong, even for the sight of the inhabitants of that planet, who listen'd to his words, while he related to them the fate of the earth and its inhabitants.

LAMECH having given them this account, one of the bright spirits reply'd; As the earth is the third of those globes that revolve round the sun, we frequently send down a look thither, following the light transmitted from this star. We  
lately



lately saw the comet furrounded with dense clouds, approach that orb, to pour the impending deluge. Under it faded the beautiful appearance of the variegated earth, and death stalk'd over hill and dale. By this event, the sun is a loser, as well as that its attendant world, accusom'd to behold its light: it suffers a loss of new inhabitants, which thence resorted to it, as from the other five opake worlds, whose track is round this radiant orb. Those souls whose union with the body, was dissolv'd, before reason could exert its power, were by their guardian angels brought up hither, where they were invested with bodies of light, and engag'd in employments adapted to the discovery of the admirable wisdom display'd in the works of the CREATOR. Thus no small number of the inhabitants of the sun have left their guilty fathers on earth, where they were plung'd in vice. The last colony that came, left their earthly bodies under the ferge, which now, on every side, encompasses the globe, and these were a most numerous host. Their conductors related of their parents actions most wicked, most horrible, and such as could only be committed by those who had shook off humanity, and ever grovell'd in the dust. These have rous'd the CREATOR's wrath, and kindled  
anger

anger in that face, where love and mercy sit enthron'd. Yet pity has check'd his anger, and that the whole race might not be destroy'd, He has preserv'd one family, that of NOAH, LAMECH's son, of SETH's and ENOCH's lineage. Oh how was I ravish'd at the tydings of my brother NOAH's preservation! I was born on earth, I liv'd in a body of dust, NOAH's brother, and LAMECH's son, of thirty the youngest. NOAH, the first-born, GOD only permitted to grow up to maturity; me and my brothers, the angel of death pluck'd green from the stem, the blossom scarce disclos'd.

Thus spake the lucent form, when LAMECH hastily answer'd, Art thou MICHA, my youngest child!—My MICHA, of whom I had such hopes—whom in thine opening bloom, which promis'd the fairest fruits, death snatch'd away? And is that dense earthly frame replac'd by this fair luminous form? How irrational were my lamentations for thine early death! O my son, let thy happy father's arms receive thee.

MICHA enraptur'd sunk on LAMECH's bosom: He embrac'd not an airy form; for LAMECH had invested the radiancy of his celestial light, with beams more compact.

In the mean while RAPHAEL with expanded wings alighted on the battlements of URIEL's residence, and LAMECH instantly knowing him, approach'd with reverential obeisance, while the inhabitants of the sun, respectfully withdrew. O RAPHAEL ! said he, one of the principal messengers who carries the commands of the Most HIGH to the earth, who visitest it with benign joy, to make known to mortal man the ways of the LORD, auspicious is the hour, which brings thee here to me. Thou wilt conduct my solitary flight to the abode of man, which after a long search, I cannot find. Alas, how should I ? I hear the night of death hath wrapp'd it up in shades that lie extended over it, forming a gloom impenetrable to the sight. In the track where that globe us'd to roll, I see the silver moon pursuing its course, near a sable spot. Is that spot the abode of man ? Tell me what has befallen it, and whither is NOAH convey'd ; for I know he is committed to thy protection.

RAPHAEL reply'd, I am not come here without design : From yonder obscur'd earth, I saw thee with uncertain step, and solicitous look, wandering on the battlements. Thou seest on the  
the

the darken'd ball a point somewhat luminous, that point of light is reflected from a vessel, built after a model GOD himself sent to NOAH, and still floats safe on the swelling deep. Within that small receptacle, are contain'd some of every species of animals ; all others have perish'd in the universal inundation, rais'd from the chambers of the deep, and encreas'd by the waters of a comet. Twice will it come to ravage its borders, and spread new oceans on the terrestrial ball. Many days of impetuous rain the ark has already sustain'd, and few have afforded chearing light : days whose wings bend under winds and storms, yet the floating ark shall they not hurt. I will preserve it. I will direct its course in safety, through tempests, darkness and the tumultuous deep. Sometimes with darken'd wings, I hover about it invisible. Sometimes I shew myself within the ark, holding friendly converse with NOAH and his family. This the MOST HIGH has enjoin'd, lest the length of lowering days should pour its melancholy influence into their hearts. Till the earth be freed from the waters, and I have plac'd the ark secure on land rising above the flood, I return not to the blissful abodes of Heaven. Thou indeed mayst return to that seat of joy, where happiness is prepar'd for thine

thine arrival, a multitude of select souls, rais'd from the deluge, are now with the patriarchs, whose streight forsaken paths they follow'd. On them the MOST HIGH has look'd down complacent; he rais'd them from their tabernacles of clay, and by His order, I have conducted them to the celestial abodes. My duty now demands my return to the ark.

LAMECH answered: One ally'd to suffering man, though himself in a state of felicity, cannot unmov'd hear the extinction of his species; yet I have less cause to bewail the whole world of the cruel, impious, and profane, than to rejoice that GOD is so far pleas'd to honour one righteous man, as to appoint him the restorer of the lost world, and that this man is my son. His deliverance is indeed great and glorious, but a deliverance infinitely more glorious shall one day be accomplish'd; for from him shall descend the son of the MOST HIGH.

The seraph without reply flew from the sun to the earth, where LAMECH observ'd him alight. NOAH, his son, had not yet chang'd his attitude. HUSAN's history, and his being conducted by the benevolent angel into the empty-



reum, there to acquire the wisdom after which he panted, and enjoy the beatific vision, made such an impression on all his faculties, that in speechless transport he still sat with his head bent, and resting on his hand, when the angel, who was already return'd, stood before him, and said,

LAMECH, no longer fill'd with doubtful conjectures in relation to the earth, and freed from all concern about thee, his son, will now fly back, carrying various tidings to the patriarchs. He has been recompens'd for his visit to the sun by the satisfaction he felt in seeing and embracing with paternal affection, one of the happy inhabitants of that luminary, MICHA, his youngest son, and thy brother, whom the angel of death dismiss'd from the earth; but his guardian angel convey'd him to the sun, and invested his pure spirit with fine members and a lovely form, that he might observe the wisdom visible in the sinless works of the great CREATOR. LAMECH unexpectedly found him there; for the ETERNAL FATHER had provided this tender pleasure for his paternal heart.

NOAH, now fill'd with new astonishment, was long lost in thought, ere he could range his ideas;

ideas; but at length recovering speech, he cry'd:

What a treasure of joyful tydings, hast thou, O celestial spirit, laid before me! What a prospect of the ways of GOD at once rush upon me, and strike my soul with wonder! Thou bringest to me a view of the love of GOD that pierces through my soul, and seems to intoxicate all its powers. No mortal without leisure can arrange such a multitude of thoughts; but the circling hours will unobserv'd pass by, when I expatiate on what thou, in few words, hast now reveal'd, while the infinite importance of these divine images, reviv'd by contemplation, will from this narrow mansion raise our souls to Heaven.

RAPHAEL answer'd, O NOAH, thou and the rest of thy family will for some time longer make it necessary for me to revive your drooping spirits in this confin'd dwelling; for still is the hour appointed for your leaving it at a distance, and again mountainous clouds are to approach from afar, and a new sea is to be pour'd over the first; but you shall not want subjects sufficient to employ and strengthen your minds, that they, as well as your bodies, may be preserv'd firm and active while in the ark.

RAPHAEL thus spake, and then -disappear'd.  
In the mean time, LAMECH stay'd no longer in  
the sun than to bless MICHA and his radiant  
brothers, then return'd serene, by the way he  
came.

While hasting towards the extremity of the  
starry firmament, under him he perceives in a  
small moon, myriads of spirits, reposing on the  
flowers of asphodel; this exciting LAMECH's  
curiosity, he dropp'd his wings to take a nearer  
view. They who had before appear'd on the  
earth in exalted stations, inflated with their pre-  
eminence, there lay mingled with the vulgar, their  
titles and dignities of no avail. The patriarch  
softly breathing into one of them his enlivening  
breath, rais'd him from the sleep of death. He  
awoke, saw the effulgent spirit stand before him,  
and heard his voice. Of what species, said  
LAMECH, art thou; and the multitude here  
sleeping with thee? Alas, I now plainly see ye  
are those whom the deluge, by a righteous sen-  
tence, has at once swept from their bodies.  
An account of that race of harden'd sinners,  
who heap'd impiety on impiety, have reach'd  
my ears.

The

The unhappy soul answer'd trembling, Thy conjectures are just, we are the spirits of the flagitious multitudes who have been suddenly separated from our bodies by the avenging deluge, and brought hither by an angel of death. Is the day of the second judgment arriv'd? I flatter'd myself with the hopes that before that summons, we should have slept many ages. Oh have we already done so? If we have we are awak'd too soon. Oh! that sleep in this dreary frozen clime, would bind me down with adamantine chains, never more to wake! Or is it only thy curiosity, which, too forward, has wak'd me from my easy sleep? Oh let me sink again into my former slumber, that stupefaction and forgetfulness may still these inward horrors!

LAMECH reply'd, Who wast thou amidst this miserable multitude?—relate the history of thy life, and then seek the repose of this death-like sleep. Oh that I could hide it from GOD, cry'd he, from angels and men! I was next to MAGOG, the delegate of Omnipotence. Hast thou not heard of TYDOR? I was the inhuman TYDOR, lord of the prince's slaves. His destroying arm was committed to my guidance, and I

pointed it against every thing noble and virtuous — against all who did not reverence his commands, as those of the Deity. I taught him to be lavish of human blood. I taught him, that he alone was free, and servile subjection the portion of all others. I caus'd his most cruel commands to be executed with as much certainty as the well-aimed dart hits the mark. Before him filial duty, the laws of honour, maternal affection, and bridal love, were to keep silence. It was I who kindled his consuming fury, The Chusites, thy slaves, said I, have a neck of flint, and cannot bend to obedience ; therefore oblige them, for the slightest crimes, to rip open their own bowels : They despise death, and, to render it terrible, it must assume new forms. I had the gift of inventing new modes of dying. It was I who contriv'd the pillar round the top of which was fasten'd iron hooks, on which they who displeas'd me were thrown from the battlements of a tower. Thus the body, or some limb, being caught by one of these, the wretch drank death with slow draughts, and keenly felt the pain of dying. I was also the author of the steel bride, whose murderous arms opening, swift clasp'd again, and kill'd embracing. When crowds of people prostrated themselves in the dust before the sacred altar of MAGOG

our



our king, the sons of LAOMER dar'd to deny his divinity, and stood erect with look compos'd. MAGOG order'd them to be crucify'd; but the sun declaring himself in their favour, withdrew his light. MAGOG then fell by an invisible blade, and on the return of the light, the audacious youths were not found. ARAXES succeeded to the throne, under whom I also rul'd, and made the land of Chus drunk with its noblest blood. While I was thus securing the kingdom to ARAXES, neither the dreadful comet, whose fiery appearance daily deepen'd, nor the thunder of the voice rolling through the clouds, check'd my delight in murder; for the face distorted with the agonies of death, afforded me the highest pleasure. Amidst my daily exultations, LAOMER and his sons ventur'd to leave their retreat, and preach to the people of Chus, when I order'd them to be crucify'd before their father's face; but while I was triumphing in their destruction, the deluge came, and I expir'd.

Thus spake the infernal soul, and nodding, sunk into forgetfulness. LAMECH with pain'd ear, had heard his horrid tale, and then cry'd, Was this wretch a man? Or did he come from Hell disguis'd in the human form, as the conceal'd

ceal'd instrument of SATAN's malice? Oh how are the human race sunk into the resemblance of SATAN! How is the DIVINE image disfigur'd!

LAMECH shock'd and offended, flew from the cold planet, across the etherial regions, into the silent waste, which extends between them and Heaven, and soon reach'd the confines of the celestial world, whose sacred orbit is encompass'd with suns. On his entering it, he related the manner of the earth's destruction, and the preservation of man in the ark; but his information was now no longer new: the bless'd souls, who emerging from the flood, had been conducted to Heaven, had already spread the amazing narrative, and in their embraces LAMECH's concern vanish'd.

In the meanwhile the comet returning from the sun, again approach'd the earth, which once more felt its force, penetrating the vast depth of the waters, even to its centre, and in this last collision, left behind several igneous masses of vast extent, torn from it by the earth's powerful attraction. The scene of this second conflict was in the south, opposite the region which had beheld the first; but the ark was in the northern sea, and NOAH felt it  
it

it carry'd with rapidity towards the south, where the attractive comet having drawn the waters into swelling mountains, the northern deep rush'd thither with swiftest motion, and with no less velocity return'd, when the waters freed from the comet's draught, again overspread the tracks, from which they had been drawn. At this crisis, the protecting seraph, withdrew not his eye from the ark.

Now numberless clouds, big with rain, discharg'd themselves on the earth, and were instantly replac'd by others, brought by the obedient winds. Ninety times the day descended from the Heavens, loaded with fresh clouds, from the spoils of the comet, in this its second approach, which now proceeded towards Arcturus, to pursue a course of ages; winding round innumerable stars, through an excentric curve of intricate immensity.

THE END OF THE TENTH BOOK.



THE ARGUMENT.

RABBIT, who is the opposite  
painting, and he reveals them to MINOR  
and the children. JAMIE then dreams that he is

**ELEVENTH BOOK**

General history of his offspring. The dream-

the vision of THAMMUS. The flood begins to

raise into the clouds the earth, and men-

tain of sinning. The world is formed. The

and gradually appears, and soon becomes

of which with water, on land which is

FOUR enters a long of praise. HAM observ-

ing, that the axis of the earth is changed,

foretells that it will produce various seasons,

and great calamities from the earth being

now composed of heterogeneous parts, that it

will be less prolific, and the life of man re-

duced to a shorter date.

THE END OF THE ELEVENTH BOOK.

THE END OF THE ELEVENTH BOOK.

THE END OF THE ELEVENTH BOOK.

THE END OF THE ELEVENTH BOOK.

THE END OF THE ELEVENTH BOOK.

THE END OF THE ELEVENTH BOOK.



## THE ARGUMENT.

RAPHAEL explains to NOAH the prophetic paintings, and he reveals them to MILCAH and his children. JAPHETH dreams that he is in the world of souls, and is entertained with a general history of his offspring. The dreadful vision of THAMAR. The flood begins to retire into the caverns of the earth, and mountains of amazing height are form'd. The land gradually appears, and soon becomes clothed with verdure, on seeing which DEBORAH utters a song of praise. HAM observing, that the axis of the earth is chang'd, foretells that it will produce various seasons, and SHEM concludes from the earth being now composed of heterogeneous parts, that it will be less prolific, and the life of man reduced to a shorter date.



# NOAH.

## BOOK XI.

**D**URING months of gloomy and unpleasant days, was NOAH's preserv'd family confin'd within the narrow compass of the floating ark, with the beasts of the field, and the fowls of heaven, unequal and dull companions for thinking beings, yet they spread not the least cloud on the countenances of its inhabitants, nor did the time fly with heavy wing. Their miraculous preservation in the ark, and their employments in it, were powerful motives to acquiescence, to joy. GOD, in preference to the whole

whole race of mankind, had confer'd on them, the honour of being the guardians of the terrestrial creation: they were agents under that wise and gracious Being who sees and disposes all things, and confiding in His unerring wisdom, what should disturb them? For, tho' surrounded by the flood, they were not secluded from an intercourse with Heaven. Thus liv'd the exil'd PHILOCLES on a mountain, the favourite recess of the virtuous GALLUS, passing years of serenity, without even a transient cloud of melancholy. With inward pleasure he observ'd the success of his medicinal skill in the recovery of those who were sinking into the grave; to the agonizing grief of the inconsolable wife, he restor'd the husband, and to afflicted parents their children; he even rescu'd those from death, whom his generous aid had fill'd with malignant envy. Far from the walk of science, he practis'd the sanative art, contented that Providence, by his means, preserv'd the laborious cottagers.

RAPHAEL in his frequent visits to NOAH, had not conceal'd from him the history of the earth, and its inhabitants; and to mitigate the concern of that patriarch and his sons, explain'd to them the beautiful paintings which adorn'd the ark; mentioning

oning the men, the hills and rivers, by those names his descendants should in future ages affix to them. Before the angelic painter, the ETERNAL had display'd the principal circumstances, He had foreseen would attend the life of the great REDEEMER, and those were here display'd in the most beautiful and striking manner, in order to relieve and elevate the minds of the inhabitants, during their solitary confinement.

NOAH did not long conceal the history of the angelic work, from MILCAH, his sons, and their wives: they, absorb'd in pleasure, hung on his lips, while he decypher'd the events express'd in each compartment. Rapt into the blissful time of the SAVIOUR's appearance, represented in the most lively manner to their view, they forgot the terrors of the flood, and the delights of Eden. Transported with extasy at his recital, their eyes shone like those of ADAM, when led by MICHAEL up the mountain, he saw before him the ways of mankind, his descendants, in gradual succession to the latest times: the film caus'd by the deceptive fruit, being first remov'd from his sight. How were their hearts enflam'd with devotion at hearing that the god-like person, who, in the first compartment, was  
praying

praying on the side of a mountain, was their  
SAVIOUR.

Other and very different sensations, far from these, sweet, soothing and divine, fill'd the minds of NOAH, on his describing the hideous forms in the second compartment, where the infernal powers, foes to GOD and man, sat in horrible divan; exalted was SATAN their chief, and on the steps of his throne, as of rank and might superior to the countless multitude below, was ADramelech and MOLOCH, BELIAL and MAGOG, all of whom, with frantic impiety, conspir'd the death of the DIVINE SAVIOUR of man.

These, continu'd the patriarch, pointing to another compartment, are the MEDIATOR's twelve attendants, chosen by him, in the days of his incarnation. They are diligently seeking him in the dark, at the foot of mount Olivet, while he is sitting in a sepulchre with JOHN, his favourite disciple, revolving the sublime mystery, the inconceivable plan of mercy, that the SON of the ETERNAL should suffer death for the human race. See DEBORAH, how this disciple's refin'd soul, shines in his graceful look. He who is ranging the wood with impatient eye and contracted

contracted brow, will be called SIMON PETER. Observe HAM, what a warm heart glows in that face. The figure near him, who will have the name of ANDREW, is his brother, and the other, that stands by with such an open and friendly air, will be named PHILIP, whose lips, when he speaks, will drop honey. He who full of solicitude is going up the hill among the cedars, will be call'd JAMES. That person, whose head is cover'd with silver locks, will have the name of BARTHOLOMEW ; observe his countenance, which is expressive of all that is great and good. These are all the sons of sanctity, ennobled by the purest virtue ; and all of them preserve an inviolable affection to their LORD and SAVIOUR. That robust figure, with raven locks coming down the hill, will be call'd JUDAS, and he, who from that cavern, leers at him, is the prince of Hell, meditating his ruin. Alas ! one of my descendants will betray the MESSIAH ! Here the patriarch sigh'd, and was silent.

THAMAR fearing that grief would induce him to break off his narrative, said, Dear father, let us dwell no longer on that wretched man ; but explain to us who are the other five, particularly he who seems to faint, while angels are hastening to his relief.

NOAH,



NOAH, willing to gratify the curiosity of the affectionate THAMAR, answer'd, That is LEBBEUS, who though related to JUDAS, in nothing resembles him; he is of a mild and gentle disposition, and such is the tenderness of his heart, that he has a tear for every woe. Two nights being past since he saw the SAVIOUR, he fears, lest his rancorous persecutors have slain him, and he shall never see him more.

Thus spake the patriarch, while his sympathizing heart affected the accents of his voice, which to his attentive hearers imparted like sensations, kindling in them an impatient thirst for hearing more, which NOAH's successive narratives only serv'd to encrease. When diverted by necessary employments, the patriarch intermitted his relations, they held delightful converse on the interesting events, while their elevated hearts affecting their speech, their lips overflow'd with eloquence.

O joyful days of futurity, said DEBORAH, which shall irradiate the life of the incarnate MEDIATOR! How bless'd must be the twelve disciples, who shall see him in his human form, and hear the sacred sublimity of his discourse!

Worthy

Worthy are they of such felicity. How my heart exults that he will meet with such faithful friends ! O that I could see those days, when the blest'd REDEEMER shall appear in the garb of humiliation !

SHEM answer'd, Deep and wide is the gulph that lies between our times and the appointed days of salvation, and the passage to it is precluded by the boundaries set to our earthly life. This, dear spouse, is a felicity reserv'd for thine offspring. I know your hearts, my dear brothers, are too noble to envy me the honour, that the MESSIAH will condescend to receive his human form from one of my descendants. In this glorious hope, I am justify'd by the blessing of SIPHA, who said that from me a more excellent people should arise, chosen and sanctify'd to the service of GOD ; to instruct them, prophets and priests should be sent, and at last the REDEEMER, who by His perfect obedience should fulfil all righteousness. If the MESSIAH be my son, he will be related to you ; nay, he will be the affectionate brother of all the human race ; for the good SIPHA added, that in Him all the various nations and languages of the peopled earth, shall rejoice and be blest'd.

HAM

HAM reply'd, That our REDEEMER shall deign to receive his human body, from thy issue, opposes our most warm and passionate wishes, for who would not covet the glorious title of Father of the SAVIOUR? But far from envying, we entertain the higher regard for him, whom the SAVIOUR will so highly distinguish as to term him father, condescending at the same time, to be our kinsman and brother. But will that more excellent people of thy progeny, whom God shall more particularly choose, sanctify and instruct for his service, be those that will not know the MEDIATOR, when conversant among them and will not open their eyes to see the BLESSED OF THE LORD?

SHEM abash'd answer'd with a look of confusion and concern, Justly hast thou, O HAM, by this recollection, check'd my pride at an undeserv'd preference. Surely where the divine glory shines, there can be no blindness.

The following night a celestial intelligence stood before the bed of JAPHETH whose mind had been enraptur'd by the great events he had heard describ'd, and form'd a brilliant vision of the manners and transactions of the nations that were to descend from him. Charm'd with the glo-

glorious view of what he had seen, he awak'd in an extasy of joy, and hasted to communicate his pleasure to his brothers and their fair spouses.

As I was in the night, said he, extending my ideas to posterity, and ruminating on the numberless people who were to descend from me, their tempers, arts and customs, I fell asleep, and suddenly found myself in a plain, profusely adorn'd with flowers; streams clearer than chrystal water'd the luxuriant soil, and a grove laden with all the rich exuberance of autumn, spread along the sloping hills, receiving the morning's genial light. There multitudes of souls beyond all number, cut the air in wanton flight, or play'd on the leaves and flowers, but incapable of reflection, their powers being merely confin'd to sensation. I thought that hereafter, when incorporated, they should tread the world's conspicuous stage; and then from sensation rise to thought; be capable of study, and of investigating the several objects convey'd to them through their senses. In the mean time, they were not without some resemblance of the human form; but too minute to be discern'd by the naked eye of man. I had quitted my body, and in their form, saw them with the eyes of the soul, and like them flew with wings of light, from flower to flower. While  
I was

I was mingling in their sportiveness an aerial form, vested with celestial radiance, presented himself before me, and thus spake.

JAPHETH, by a singular favour, thou art readmitted into the residence of the souls of men before their birth. Here with a faint consciousness of existence, they wait, till a celestial spirit calls them to the earth, to animate the body assign'd them. From hence it was that ADONA summon'd thee to receive a body from NOAH; but the place thou no longer rememberest: a potion given thee on thy entrance into thine earthly frame, effac'd the bright ideas. All the unborn thou seest here shall derive their bodies from thee, thy sons, and their generations, who shall form states and monarchies; for from them shall the earth be cover'd with mighty nations, who having lost all ideas of their origin, shall be strangers to each other, and enemies contending in bloody wars for mutual extinction; some subduing others, and soon themselves receiving the yoke of a superior power: In laws, manners, and arts, as various as in their number. Among thy descendants some characters will be strongly mark'd, and evidently distinguish'd from the lineage of SHEM and HAM. Among them generous breasts shall glow with such ardour for liberty as to acknowledge no sovereign but one  
who



who governs by right and equity, while they with hardy bodies and intrepid souls, accomplish works of toil and danger. These are the produce of the northern part of this globe, where the body, harden'd by the rude climate, shall invigorate the mind. Then shall they issue into the relax'd south, to break its chains, and make its tyrants know, that nature having given to all one form, and equal powers, reason does not subject one man to another, except where obedience is productive of greater happiness. Thus, if the south often feels their conquering arms, it will only be to destroy the unnatural yoke of tyranny. In ages more remote, while the servile world will crouch to kings, the north persevering in its regard to freedom, will have kings who shall rule over the brave and free, shall be friends to liberty, and pride themselves in listening to her dictates. The south will not be without its heroes, but the north will be the nurse of freedom: thither will repair literature and skill, with the festive groupe of sciences, to dwell in the temple of liberty. far from the princes who know no law but their will. The comparative sterility of the north, will teach its inhabitants the arts of agriculture, and social commerce, the parent of wealth, whose steps are follow'd by the arts. Commerce instead of confining itself within the narrow bounds of the  
neigh-



neighbouring countries, will extend to the farthest parts of the earth, and beyond the seas discover countries, abounding in men, beasts, birds and plants, conceal'd from the rest of the habitable globe, though alike springing from ancestors, sav'd in the floating ark. Thou seest by yonder stream three glittering souls, they will, in different ages, be invested in human bodies; one of these shall without fear range through the watery waste, directing his course by the power of a black fossil of mysterious virtue, naturally pointing to the north; the other will give to floating vessels such a form, that they shall continue their course, under all the variations of the wind. The third, encourag'd by these inventions, will discover a new continent, a tract of land that may be term'd another world. Not far from them, behold the soul that will animate the body of a monarch, who will then boast that the globe was desirous of extending his domain. How great might he be, would he follow the direction of Providence! would he know the immense good he might perform to his golden countries in a distant land; would he teach them by winning examples, the mildness and charity of Christianity, instead of suffering fell superstition, with its murderous claws to be let loose upon them! would he break the chains of the slave,

slave, and not reduce the free to bondage ! would be instead of exterminating whole nations, put a stop to the phrenzy of offering human victims ! But that soul thou seest sitting on a beautiful ranunculus, will be fill'd with humanity ; he will reconcile arm'd foes ; inculcate the gentle offices of benevolence, and diffuse happiness around him. Others there are who will uphold the dignity of human nature. Observe him who is walking among the tulips, he will rule a nation, and owe his sovereignty solely to his wisdom : he will set their minds free : he will bind in fetters the lawless desires and unruly appetites of man ; not by penalties ; but by the celestial flame of benevolence, which he shall kindle in their hearts, and burning there with purest light, in private they shall be the same, as before the world's curious and prying eye. There silver shall be excluded as the source of avarice ; from thence shall be banish'd all eager desires to amass superfluous treasures, by Nature wisely conceal'd, and deep in her bowels hid from man. That band which hangs in a cluster on the aloes bloom, deserves thy notice. They first will employ their care to heal the wounds given to the human race, by the conqueror's of a new discover'd world : they will seek the timid people in the woody wilds, planted by Nature's hand, to instruct them in

agriculture and the worship of the Most High.—Glorious indeed would be their fame, were not the motive of these actions, apparently so good, the desire of rule: but he well deserves to rule, who in any nation establishes Happiness, that fair emigrant, who in every age, will rove through every clime, and fixes her abode among his subjects: but how small will be the number of those who use aright their power. Among these fragrant shrubs I see a numerous train of those who calling themselves the successors of one of the disciples of the REDEEMER, will add to their spiritual armour the murdering steel, and breaking down the boundaries which reason, the laws of nature and everlasting truth shall raise between the church and state, the priest and prince, will put the sceptre in sacerdotal hands; reduce sovereigns to ignominious servility; and kings will lay their crowns at the feet of him who, with dissembled humility, will call himself the representative of a disciple of the meek and gracious SAVIOUR, and the servant of the servants of CHRIST. Even the sons of probity and virtue, seduc'd by their suggestions; mistaking absurdity for truth, and cruelty for religion, will shake of their allegiance to worthy princes, and from mere piety extirpate and lay waste the nations. Sword and fire will they use to propagate

gate the knowledge of Him who is All-merciful and All-gracious, while they themselves will by their lives contradict the doctrines they teach. But before these transactions many successive ages shall pass away.

Thus the prophetic angel related to me the history of my posterity. I heard him with silent astonishment, and with extasy beheld the souls fluttering from the violet to the orange, and from the orange to the anemone. While we wander'd through the flowery garden of the unborn, from the tops of the hills descended the grey twilight; the golden day was succeeded by the silver moon, and soon after all these splendid objects, with the communicative angel, vanish'd, and I awoke.

JAPHETH's spouse, with her sisters, listen'd with attentive ear to the amazing narrative. How agreeable the sight thou hast beheld! said THAMAR, the objects must have been singular, beyond conception. Oh that some kind angel would also transport me to that newly discover'd region of souls, if to an angel my brother owes the sight. But perhaps his mind, being inflam'd by our father's narrative, might only dream of such brilliant appearances. Yet with what delight should I view these diminutive souls, with

all their distinguishing features, fluttering from flower to flower! How different are these enchanting scenes of innocent amusement from the fordid occupations, in which they will be engag'd, when cloath'd by the body: but very far am I from wishing to see those days, over which night will throw her gloomy mantle.

HAM, with dubious mind thus address'd  
JAPHETH: Thy dream is thick set with wonders, but these are common in dreams: what appears most surprizing, is the seraph's prediction. Can any thing be more strange than that in the distant ages of the world, when our blood shall have pass'd through thousands of generations, new Chusites should cross the ocean, to countries unknown, in search of new inhabitants, whom they should massacre in the woods: That instead of one DAGON, there shall be a hundred high priests, who shall dart their thunder against the thrones of monarchs. Hitherto I had imagin'd such manners could only belong to the lawless wretches who have now perish'd in the flood. In those remote ages, will not the vices of the former be extinguish'd? Surely they will; for the MEDIATOR will then have added to the faint light of reason, the irradiations of divine truth.



SHEM judg'd less hastily of JAPHETH's vision, Our brother's dream, said he, though thick set with wonders, may be fraught with truth. HAM will not allow that the vices of those who have just perish'd, can possibly take place in the new world. Alas, fain would I think like him; but I cannot help fearing, that even the latest ages will also produce their MAGOGS, that new DAGONS may again blast the throne, with sacerdotal thunder, and other PUT-NIELS with frantic impiety, assault the Heavens, or bid the son plunge his sword into his father's breast. If man just come from the CREATOR's forming hand, could sin, much more will they of later birth, they who are a thousand ages distant from the Creation! How dreadful is the thought, that the very nation consecrated to GOD, will turn aside from the right path, and with implacable hatred pursue, not only the holy prophets, but even the great, the benevolent, the divine. MESSIAH!

The next night THAMAR had also a vision, but how different from that she had wish'd to behold! Many tears did it cost her, and the ensuing morning she with weeping eyes, thus related what she had seen. I was sitting in an arbour, said she, in a mournful voice, and



before me a strange sort of people were rudely dancing to the pipe and timbrel: they were quite naked, and their skins of a shining black, their hair was woolly, like that of the lamb; their noses flat, and their lips large: these paying me homage, call'd me mother, and I felt my breast fill'd with tenderness for them. In the midst of their diversion, a lofty ship steer'd to land, and out of it came white men, cloth'd from head to foot, carrying in their hands, glittering arms, out of which came fire, which thundering kill'd at a distance. From this ship, they also brought a liquor, of which, whoever drank, lost his reason, and became regardless of all the ties of nature: for this liquor friends sold their friends, husbands their wives, and even fathers their sons, whom the white men drove in flocks to their ship, to transport them far from that beloved land, where their eyes first saw the light. Oh the agony of the disconsolate creatures, at seeing their mother country lessening to their sight! they pour'd out their lamentations to Heaven, and to their new masters, while their wailings pierc'd my heart. With furious grief I cry'd from the desert shore, ye sons of the fell tyger, to what barbarous coast do ye carry my sons and daughters, born free, and by your curs'd fraud

fraud taken from their infatuated parents ? inhuman artifice ! under the colour of friendship, ye give them a baleful potion, and then while delirious, rob them of what they hold most dear. Ye cannot be of NOAH's lineage ; but from the infernal tyrant, ye are sure descended.

Thus I vented my complaints, while the treacherous wretches only laugh'd at me ; but soon one call'd from the floating vessel, Say'st thou that we are not descended from NOAH, first prove that these woolly-headed negroes, who call thee mother, and whom thou ownest for thy children, are descended from ADAM ; white was the beautiful colour in which he was created, and from him NOAH and all his off-spring deriv'd their complexion ; that is the human colour, black is the emblem of Hell. Can a pure soul be lodg'd in a form so dark ? No, these negroes were like the beasts, only made for the service of the whites.

While I was lamenting, the ship pass'd out of sight, when methought two wings grew at my feet, on which I ascended into the air, and after a long pursuit, reach'd the coast where the black captives were openly sold for a price much less than was given for a fine horse. There the

fate of the young and old, was to toil at mills, or to dig in rocky mines; they were expos'd to cruel stripes: they were scourg'd from the mere wantonness of cruelty; and all their offspring were doom'd to the same misery. Affected at the sight, I awoke in tears, and still is my fancy so impress'd with the sight, that I cannot refrain from weeping.

She ended, and HAM smiling answered. With what strange images, with what impossibilities does Imagination teem, when Reason, lock'd up in sleep, resigns her superiority! With what festal pomp does she ascend the throne of Truth, and there with mimic sport, personates the white rob'd queen! She throws forms, features and colours into a thousand different changes, and sometimes weaves a long connected tissue of idle phantoms. Shed not then thy tears, O THAMAR, about such nothings, about the idle visions of the night. Thy tears to me are precious, learn to place a higher value on them.

SHEM reply'd, the misery represented by THAMAR's vision, in which the people forget the endearing names of wife, of son, of friend, of brother; this extinction of reason by a fatal potion; these creatures form'd after the image  
of

of GOD, thrust into the depth of hollow mountains, may be reserv'd in the womb of futurity, and may one day come to pass. The woes of the first world, will descend to the inhabitants of the future earth ; for all born of woman, are the children of pain and sorrow ; and from themselves arise the greatest part of their afflictions. Calamity falls not on the riotous multitude alone, brought on by their own excesses ; temperance itself cannot preserve from disease and death, and affliction will visit innocence. Our offspring shall be a prey to sin and sorrow, yet amidst these considerations, it is a ravishing reflection that from us multitudes shall arise, who will adore the MOST HIGH, and by the sanctity of their lives, obtain even here a bless'd foretaste of the heavenly felicity. Let us then rejoice in this thought, and not sink under the painful idea, that we shall, on the other hand, be the fathers of a wretched race, blind to reason, blind to the calls of duty, and the obligations of religion. GOD has sent down Truth from above, holding in her left hand, the pleasures and allurements of this world, and in her right, the sublime joys of that which is to come. The good man chooses those that are above, and despises the vain and fleeting delights of sense, which vanish in the possession, and carry

with them a sting that shall pierce through the very soul.

Thus, close as their confinement was, their busy minds never wanted fruitful matter of speculation and discourse.

Now had the atmosphere empty'd all its watery stores; its clouds were exhausted, and a lucid serenity, spread through the air. Over the earth, the water was smoothly expanded like a transparent mantle. The pyramids and hills, the bounds prescrib'd to the deluge were cover'd, but soon the ETERNAL deliver'd the earth from the fetters, with which it was bound, and expos'd it to the chearing ray, calling from the seedy turf, verdant plants and herbage, salutary aliments for man and beast. The bosom of the globe, after this long pressure, elastic rose on atlantic pillars, in all parts forming vast reservoirs within its bowels. Thus under the broken shell of the earth were form'd immense basins for receiving oceans of water. In some parts, swelling high, towering mountains rose from under the water and in strange shapes, with pointed summits and craggy sides, projected above the liquid plain. The divine  
voice



voice resounded in the abyfs, and floated along the floods; an universal ebb prevail'd: on all fides, the earth abforb'd the inundation, by mouths innumerable, open'd to ingulph the waters, and receive them in her wide cavernous bowels. Not rapid was the floods decline, it retreated flow; for the mighty waters requir'd weeks and months to retire, without tumult, into their profound refervoirs; but though with gentle ftep, they enter'd thefe fubterranean deeps, the furface of the water, during this amazing ebb, remain'd not always unruffled; once the ark felt a fudden fhock, thro' every part fo violent, that the inhabitants could fcarce keep their feet. At firft they apprehended, that their manfion had ftruck on fome hidden rock; but they ftill found themfelves fafe on the watery bafe. Day after day, the fky and fea were all they faw, yet with wonder, they obferv'd in both, a daily change. Now the fun, with every cloud remov'd, fhone on the fmooth expanfe, and burnt with glowing beams the fulphur and nitre, which wrapt in the comet's vapours, fermented, and form'd a raging ebullition, thence arofe an inflam'd air, fashing lightnings, rolling thunders, deftructive hurricanes, and whirlwinds; fuch as have never fince been heard or feen.

Ten times would the storms have shatter'd the ark, had not RAPHAEL by the power given him by the MOST HIGH, kept it secure, or with angelic rapidity, outstripping the wings of the bel-  
lowing winds, averted their rage.

Oft when the storm sweeping the waves, rais'd their tops high in the air, had NOAH's family beheld beautiful objects, the more surprizing as before unknown ; for then the rays of light playing through the thin translucent watery sheets, form'd magnificent bows painted with the colours of Iris, brightness softly mix'd the various tints of sevenfold light. Not seldom they saw at the blaze of noon twenty or thirty of these resting on the flood, and stretching their horns towards the heavens.

Nine times the space of a day had the flood, with insensible pace, retir'd within the earth, when RAPHAEL perceiving a mountain, that rear'd its head almost to the surface of the water, with cautious steerage, guided the ark thither, and plac'd it on the solid peak, where it remain'd secure from the fluctuating waves. This done, he withdrew into his ethereal pavilion, where for some days he continu'd to watch the flood,  
and

and guard the ark. NOAH, soon sensible of the fix'd situation of that vessel, examin'd the depth of the water, and found it only three feet. The ark had not long rested on its solid support, when he perceiv'd round fragments of rocks which continually projecting, soon environ'd the mighty edifice. By degrees the water subsided from the upper parts of the earth, which in proportion, seem'd to rise from the surface, while a rapid tide, frequently streaming between them, join'd the other seas. Soon the ark appear'd fix'd in a shallow bay, one end of which extended to it, while the other parts of the vast structure stood on the dry earth. An extensive prospect now open'd, of seas raging among the rocks, and the bellowing surges lashing the new form'd shores. NOAH from his safe harbour, surveying the flood, discover'd many dark spots irregularly plac'd rise prominent above the agitated waves, and continually enlarging their surface.

The ground about the ark was first a naked soil, black and despoil'd of all verdure: instead of plants, it was strew'd with shells of strange and various forms, the dwellings of suitable inhabitants, left by the ebb on the slimy land, and in many places with these the earth appear'd inlaid. Some trees indeed were standing, but  
scarce

scarce were they to be known; half thrown down, rent and bare.

This dreary scene, was, however, of short duration, for in the soil were preserv'd invisible seeds, which cherish'd by the solar beams, shot up in verdant spires, between the shells: fresh sap impregnated the trees, and their boughs were soon cover'd with opening buds. The ravish'd eye then saw the changing earth, again vesting herself in her mantle of chearful green. With what raptures did the gladdening sight fill NOAH's rejoicing family! To those eyes which during successive months had never seen the earth, the ground now appear'd a Paradise. As a native of æthereal Alps, when in a lower and more cloudy clime, faintly breathing, longs with restless ardour for her native home, on coming within view of Camor or Santus, his impatient joy is shewn in every frolic gesture: thus at the sight of the long immers'd land, exulted the youthful pairs, and thus enamour'd were they with the earth, their native soil from which the human species came, and to which they will return. Hence in rapturous praise, DEBORAH rais'd her soft melodious voice.

Prais'd

Prais'd be the LORD who has preserv'd mankind, among the perilous waters ! prais'd be the GOD of our fathers, who has deliver'd us from the depth of death ! O praise the PRESERVER of men ! Our family alone has he sav'd, and from it shall arise innumerable nations. Him will I praise whose power has releas'd the earth from the overwhelming flood, under which it lay imprison'd. Behold He cloaths it anew with chearful green, while flowery fields, and verdant groves, prepare a delightful habitation for our descendants. All others of the human race hath GOD bury'd in the deep, which at His command rush'd upon them : alas ! they sunk like stones. It is He who created the frightful star which cast a shade on the smiling morn, and hid the radiance of noon in midnight gloom. He spake, and the stars, which in the evening rise in the sky, suddenly vanish'd, veil'd in the darkness of twofold night. O GOD ! terrible is the power of thine arm ! thou hast hurl'd instantaneous ruin on the host of rebels, who leagu'd with SATAN, impiously defy'd Thy power. By the breath of Thy nostrils thou gather'dst together the waters, which rising at Thy command overspread the earth. Where then were the idols of the nations ? Why did they not appear in defence of their  
trembling



trembling worshippers? Thou, O ETERNAL! hast preserv'd on the waters the few, despis'd by the people, and who call on Thy name. In a dwelling of boards, hast thou brought them from the former destroy'd earth, into that which thou art now raising from the deep, and when thou hast driven the waters from the ground, thou wilt manifest thy power and goodness in bringing us down among yon inviting plains, where myriads of tribes shall descend from us; pay thee a more holy worship, and seeing the wonders Thou hast perform'd for their forefathers, will reverence Thy holy name.

Praise GOD who has preserv'd mankind in the ark; who gave it in charge to the benevolent angel, whose mighty arm secur'd it amidst the waves and assailing storms. The MOST HIGH cover'd the earth with the deep as with a garment. The waters arose above the mountains, but fled at the rebuke of the LORD: they withdrew at the roar of his thunder. The mountains shoot up their towering heads: the plains at their feet wait for the recess of the waters: to them the ALMIGHTY has assign'd limits, and these their impetuous waves shall not transgress.

Praise

Praise GOD, who has preserv'd mankind in the ark ; who has fix'd the pillars on which the earth is supported ; who has inclos'd the sea as with gates : who lately open'd them, and it issu'd forth as a child from the womb. Over the sea, he wove a mantle of clouds, which cover'd it with darkness. Enquire of Him, for He alone can tell, how the vast sea rested on the overwhelm'd earth, and by what way it return'd again to its chambers.

Thus sang SHEM's devout spouse ; the delivering GOD, in strains sublime taught her, by the seraphic muse.

Daily they look'd down on the wide expanse of waters : with pleasing wonder they beheld the enlarging spots rising up to hills of various forms, with herbage and flowers, a pleasing covering ; for the destroying blasts had ceas'd, and the eye unmolested rov'd over the variegated prospect. To other regions GOD had driven the tempest : but soon it return'd with fresh collected clouds, which extending themselves wide over the sea, intercepted their view. Now, from their lofty height, they beheld the storm raging below, heard the thunder roll, and saw  
serpen-

serpentizing flashes darting from the clouds beneath their feet.

In the upper region, where the ark lay in its safe receptacle, the sky was clear and serene, and the joyful inhabitants removing the coverings from its windows, enjoy'd the genial sun and cooling breeze. KERENHAPUCH had sav'd her favourite carnation from the general ruin, and having plac'd it on a shelf, it bloom'd with flowers of various hues; but how greatly was she delighted, when in the vase in which she had plac'd it, she also perceiv'd a shoot, from which, with progressive luxuriance, issu'd various stalks, which in a few days spread the roof with fragrant jessamine.

As HAM was viewing the heavens in a clear star-bespangled night, he perceiv'd that the axis of the earth was remov'd some degrees back from the sun's path. At first it stood not so oblique, though before the earth had been already mov'd, and turn'd aslant. Then he saw the Pleiades in the north, which he had been used to see shining near the gate of the morning. This he communicated to his brothers.

Events little desirable, said he, are at hand; henceforth during the first months of the prolific spring,

spring, the earth will not rejoice in its flowery surface, and darkness will longer withhold the reviving day. Cold will in one part be intolerable, and in the other heat. Autumn from the north, will introduce a severe winter; and in the midst of summer, heat shall come from the south fatal to man and beast. Thus there will be different seasons, to which we must give different names. I also observe the air charg'd with nitrous and sulphureous vapours: these are doubtless the produce of the late overwhelming flood; and will be the seeds of tempests.

SHEM answer'd, This and still more may probably come to pass; for no small change awaits the body of the late beautiful earth, not only in its outward figure, of which from these windows we already see many wonderful instances in the number and height of the mountains, but in its inward substance, and texture, which macerated, detach'd and conjoin'd by the all-penetrating flood, must needs be a mixture of heterogeneous parts, big with noxious influences on the air and the vegetables; but it is my comfort that I foresee many benefits arising from this change. When the earth, no longer indulging the sloth of man, shall require assiduous labour to supply his wants; and when, in a more  
turbid

turbid air, he shall find a shorter term appointed him below, he will no longer devise evil from the want of employment, and the prospect of a future state being nearer, will probably have a greater effect on his mind.

This also, said HAM, I have already consider'd. The CREATOR's laws are not confin'd to single parts, but relate to the whole. Matter in its course and motion follows the rules impos'd on it, with all the precision correspondent to its nature; this is limited, nothing created being infinite. The creation of GOD never deviates from the Divine will, not amidst the devastations of earthquakes, nor when the impetuous storm swells into rolling mountains the waters of the abyss. After this change in the earth produc'd by the ravaging flood, tempests may become necessary to the air and sea, lest for want of motion, they should produce putrid exhalations, which overspreading the land, would sow diseases among its pining inhabitants: this would surely be the case did clouds never fill the atmosphere, did the thunder never shake, and the lightning divide them, and did no mighty winds agitate the air and sea.

THE END OF THE ELEVENTH BOOK.



THE  
TWELFTH BOOK



N O A H.

## THE ARGUMENT.

RAPHAEL visits NOAH's family for the last time in the ark, array'd in his celestial splendor. He departs to convey some of the inhabitants of a sinless world to Heaven : but first acquaints the women that they shall bear twins. THAMAR and KERENHAPUCH on finding themselves pregnant praise the LORD. NOAH sends forth a raven, and afterwards a dove. He leaves the ark. NOAH directs SHEM to descend the mountain, in order to find the country represented in the sacred paintings. The three sisters bring forth twins. NOAH blesses them. SHEM's journey to the land of Canaan, with a description of the country after the flood. He enters a pyramid where he finds a writing describing the destruction of ASDOD and his children by famine. He is met on mount Nebo by RAPHAEL, who points out the places that will be distinguish'd by the MESSIAH. SHEM returns, and conducts NOAH, MILCAH, with his brothers and sisters to the promis'd land. The women on their arrival hail the country. NOAH offers a sacrifice, and receives an assurance that the earth would never more be destroy'd by water, as a testimony of which the rainbow appears. NOAH pours forth his gratitude, and at length builds a house on mount Sion.



# NOAH.

## BOOK XII.

**S**INCE the ark had been seated on lofty Ararat, for so posterity nam'd the mountain on which it rested, the moon had more than once renew'd its course round the earth. The water was now withdrawn from the foot of the mountain, which evidently appear'd to NOAH from the increas'd depth of the air. At a great distance he beheld eminences and naked trees, while the summit of the mountain, gladden'd his eyes with various flowers, and moss was beginning to cloath the naked rocks. NOAH delay'd

delay'd opening the door of the ark, though much solicited by the women, who long'd to breathe a freer air; but he cautious, apprehended, that should he open the ark before the waters had entirely left the lower grounds, while the aliments the mountain afforded were few and immature, want would excite quarrels among the beasts, and their number be decreas'd by furious wars; for not one of those creatures would he lose, which GOD had committed to his care, when all others of the species were involv'd in the general destruction.

The patriarch's sons and daughters acquiescing in this consideration, patiently waited their enlargement, and so acceptable was their acquiescence to the MOST HIGH, that to reward it, RAPHAEL their benevolent guardian, receiv'd orders to take his leave of this happy family, in familiar and gladdening converse.

NOAH was one evening sitting amidst his affectionate children, in the painted room, with eyes of solemn complacency, viewing the land where GOD would manifest his presence, the native country of the friends and messengers of the great REDEEMER, and of the future witnesses

nesses of his life, chiefly Moriah, Olivet, and Sion's sacred mount. When he who has plac'd us on this eminence, said he, shall have freed the land from the waters, and renew'd verdure shall again adorn the earth, may my steps be directed to the land that will be honour'd with my REDEEMER's presence, that I may end the days of this mortal life, where my incarnate SAVIOUR is to deposite his earthly frame : but difficult will it be for me to find it amidst the wide extent of mountains, plains and vallies, unless the MOST HIGH, or His celestial messenger directs my wandering steps.

NOAH was still speaking, when suddenly the ark, the hill on which it rested, and the ambient air, were irradiated with a splendor like that which the dawning morn spreads through the eastern sky ; for the archangel suddenly appear'd in the room, not in the dim form of the mortals he visited, but in celestial lustre. Yet he had temper'd the flame of his effulgence, and into their eyes, insensibly convey'd some drops of the spring of life, strengthening their visual organs : thus he appear'd to ADAM, to warn him against that infernal rebel, who being justly expell'd from Heaven, impiously projected the fall of man. RAPHAEL had invested his divine form



with six radiant wings: the upper from his shoulders extended mantling over his breast, with regal magnificence; the middle like a starry zone winded round his waist, skirting his loins and thighs with downy gold, and colours of celestial dye; the third pair sky-tinctur'd cover'd his legs, and graceful touch'd the floor. Every motion of his feathers diffus'd over the mountain, spicy odours, and every feature of his divine face, breath'd immortal love. NOAH, in his celestial lineaments, soon retrac'd the features oft seen by him in obscure disguise; but before his astonishment allow'd him the use of speech, the angel thus began:

Thy discomposure NOAH, shews that my celestial appearance does not excite those pleasing sensations, and that lively joy, which always shine in thy countenance on seeing me in my terrestrial disguise. Pay not more reverence to my splendor, nor love me less than in my obscure appearance: else I shall divest myself of this radiance; but however I appear, whether obscure or resplendent, I am still, O NOAH, thy friend, and that of thy family, who stand round thee, and join in thy devotions. Pleasing was the order I receiv'd from the MOST HIGH,  
when

when at the late destruction of all things, he made me thy guardian. Now my charge is at an end, soon will the waters also quit the lower parts of the earth; soon shall it recover the ornaments of which it has been so long despoil'd, and invite thee and thy family down from your confinement. Before I return to Heaven, I am permitted to pay a short visit to persons who are so dear to me, especially to the mothers of the future race of man. From you shall the world be peopled, in greater numbers than before the flood. In a little time, ye shall all three bring forth twins, each a male and female, to whom mighty nations shall owe their origin.

NOAH, bowing low, said, Who am I, that one of the seven who stand before the ETERNAL's throne, should deign to descend and hold converse with us children of the dust, in that resplendant lustre, which even heavenly essences view with admiration. Never could we bear the blaze of such effulgence, did not that bounty, which has look'd down on us with preserving power, strengthen our eyes. Benevolent hast thou ever been, and exalted as thy rank is, the concerns of men have always excited thy tenderness, even before the tremendous judgment

of this dreadful deluge. That the ark held out against the assaults of the waters, that the violence of the wind did not shatter its structure, we owe, next to the superintending power of the ALMIGHTY, to thy protecting care. Preserv'd by thee, the appointed remains of the creation survive, and never shall our tongues cease to speak of thy goodness; but in more lofty hymns will we extol GOD OUR DELIVERER, whose messenger thou art, and has made thee his arm to save us. O bountiful LORD, how great is Thy condescension and Thy grace, to send to our deliverance one of the principal archangels, who stand before Thine august throne. Eternally bless'd be our CREATOR! our PRESERVER! who cloaths the hills and vallies with grain, with plants and fruit: who is again rendering the earth a commodious dwelling for our descendants. But may I entreat thee, my bright and glorious friend, according to thy gracious custom, to rest awhile with man in the ark.

RAPHAEL answer'd, No longer does the ark want my succour, and new commands from my SOVEREIGN require my immediate presence in the milky way. There dwells a race unfallen,  
their

their bodies immortal as their souls, fix'd in congenial innocence, without sin and blemish, woful legacy of thy laps'd progenitors. As they are not depriv'd of the Divine image, by any transgressions, it is to them inconceivable that man, or any of the world of spirits should ungratefully disobey GOD their CREATOR and gracious FRIEND, and thus fall from his favour. The MOST HIGH has order'd me to take a myriad of the immortal bodies of the most aged, and first dipping them in celestial light, assemble them before his sublime throne, and thus introduce them to the blissful region, where is fulness of joy, and where their happiness shall be compleat. But my return will not be long, and frequently will I converse with you, shrouded, or in my celestial appearance. Do thou SHEM meet me on the top of Nebo.

He ended, and gave the parting salute to the patriarch, to the devout MILCAH, their sons and daughters. O what fresh roses did the celestial embrace strew on the vernal cheeks of the females ! What sublime ideas did it breathe into the minds of all, who shar'd this endearing favour ! Ideas worthy the inspiration of a flaming seraph. RAPHAEL departed, but the glow of

his effulgence remain'd behind and gradually decreas'd : as the evening light slowly fades when the sun has sunk behind the western mountains, till succeeded by the regular approach of night ; thus at the departure of the angel, the dusky clouds slowly envelopp'd the mountain of Ararat. The radiance was then no more, yet ambrosial vapours long continu'd to fill the ark with enlivening fragrance.

Animated with the seraph's visit, NOAH'S children, now with less anxiety waited their release, which however retarded, they saw could not be far distant. The women treasur'd up in their hearts the words of the angel, that they should bear twins ; but from native modesty conceal'd their joy, till feeling in their wombs the prediction of the angel realiz'd, their exultation was not to be suppress'd ; and their grateful souls gave vent to their transports in praises to Him who had made them the mothers of mankind, and of a better race than that destroy'd by the deluge.

O my soul, cry'd THAMAR, praise the  
LORD OF LIFE, who giveth me children, on  
whom I may pour out those treasures of affection



tion which He has implanted in my heart! I now shall know the sweet sensations of maternal love, when the babe smiles at the fond looks of the smiling mother; and all those sublime pleasures, which parents feel, when they see their children walk in the ways of the LORD. From me shall a race receive life, that shall praise the name of the MOST HIGH, when this body shall be laid in the silent grave. When I am no more, and have exchange'd this earthly state for the joys of Heaven, my children shall shew forth His glory among men, and teach the ends of the earth to praise and obey their CREATOR.

Thus sang THAMAR, and KERENHAPUCH continued, What we, while in Paradise, so impatiently long'd to see, troops of youths and maidens, lovely as opening roses, the sons and daughters of the earth, we shall now behold: see their pretty lips, their lovely faces and their eyes sparkling with love and goodness. From us these dear creatures shall be born, they will play about us, and looking on our affectionate countenances, smile with unfeign'd fondness.

Amidst these expectations weeks of easy days had pass'd, when NOAH concluded that the water had now also left the plains. Impervious mists had overspread the earth, covering hills and dales, while the pure light of the azure sky, irradiated the summits of the towering mountain. NOAH, in order to be ascertain'd, whether the time of relief was come, sent forth a raven, which with wandering flight, reach'd the upper extremity of the mist, thro' which his piercing eye discovering the shallow stagnated waters, it chang'd its course and flew to the higher lands. NOAH, after long waiting its return, sent out a dove, a more faithful messenger, which returning spent with fatigue and hunger, the patriarch took it again into the ark; but after its second flight, it brought back the juicy olive's typical branch: this the joyful patriarch receiv'd as a token of peace restor'd to the earth. The third time it return'd no more, GOD directing its distant track.

NOAH now concluded that he might without danger, restore to the earth and air, the creatures committed to his care. RAPHAEL unseen had taken off the closing seal from the door, which would otherwise have withstood the efforts

forts of an earthly or even an angelic arm; but NOAH now easily open'd it, and caus'd a bridge to be made from the lower deck to the ground; while, at the command of GOD, a north wind dispell'd the fog that hover'd over the plains. NOAH and his exulting family, now standing at the open door, had before their eyes, the earth so lately immers'd in the defacing flood. From the lofty eminence on which they stood, they with strain'd eyes, saw below, far distant, broad glittering streams in winding length, especially two which they judg'd to be the Hidakel and Perat, directing their glittering course through sandy wastes. They likewise beheld the ruins of cities, the seats of power and ostentation, with obelisks and pyramids, lying in confus'd destruction; desert, and forsaken by their once crouded inhabitants. As when in Upper Egypt, on the confines of parch'd Abyssinia, pestilential death drains cities and villages, till no farther prey remains. Squallid was the appearance of the country after the long calamity it had endur'd, as when amidst the reign of murky winter the active sun dispels the frost, and clears the fields of the melting snow, they still languish under the piercing cold, and the opening buds fear to expose their tender blossoms. But

while they were delighted with surveying the boundless expanse, and their minds fill'd with sublime imaginations, the recollection that over all the vast extent, no life existed, and that all animals, from the insect up to man, were destroy'd, brought tears into their eyes.

They now quit their confinement, first the human kind, the lords of the creation: the men and women then, in devout prostration, embrac'd with out-stretch'd arms, their kindred earth; for which they had a secret strong attachment, an object dearer as it had been long conceal'd by the deluge. Then sitting down with silent joy; their eyes feast on its renew'd verdure, its springing decorations, and the plants and herbage rising in all their antecedent variety. Near them, on a gentle slope of the mountain, stood a grove, which spread its new form'd shade, and thither the powerful whispers of nature call'd the youths and their fair spouses, who at a signal, arose, and hasten'd to this alluring spot, which offer'd delights to every sense.

Here KERENHAPUCH thus gave vent to her sensations, Hail sweet umbragious light, and ye chearing vapours from the bosom of our  
mother

mother earth ! ye streams of air, gently temper'd with quivering shades, how long have I miss'd you in the close ark ! How long have I breath'd confin'd effluvia, and been dejected at the roaring winds and beating waves ! One of my chief supports was the hope of once more feeling your reviving influences ; even when far distant, I, with lenient comfort discover'd you. Your various verdure softens the light with gentle shade, and your delightful odours, then left us in doubt whether we did not rather taste than smell your fragrance. The fields of air then rais'd in me sensations, which I cannot name.

NOAH remain'd alone at the foot of the bridge, to observe the various animals, beasts, insects and reptiles that left the ark in all the order and harmony, with which they had enter'd that peaceful abode. Not one was wanting ; the same number of each species, which NOAH counted at their going out, answer'd to his computation at their reception. As the proceßion pass'd by NOAH, they departed not without signs of gratitude to their careful feeder : the beasts bow'd their necks ; the birds clapt their wings ; then according to their several natures, sought the gloomy cavern,



vern, and lofty cliff, or some tree or bush, which standing the rage of the impetuous flood, now invited them by its renew'd foliage. But most dispers'd themselves among the adjacent plains and eminences cover'd with green pasture. The domestic animals form'd with gentle disposition to live among men, still kept near them, delighted to hear man's voice, and see the human form. They were still tame and tractable, readily performing service to their superior.

NOAH now caus'd a tent to be erected in the midst of the mountain, which was to stand till his daughters should be deliver'd of their happy burthens. In the mean time the sun exhal'd the putrid fumes that arose from the swampy vales.

SHEM by NOAH's direction, was now to descend alone from Ararat's lofty mount, to take a near survey of the new recover'd land, and search for a commodious habitation: where after all their dangers and migrations, they might pass the remainder of their days in ease and quiet. But, O my son, said the patriarch, carefully remember every mark, which in the heavenly paintings, distinguish'd Canaan's  
sa-

sacred land: towards the south and east, it is enclos'd by sandy wastes, and a chain of hills: to the north-west alone it is open; for westward it is bounded by a shore, which rises as a mound against the invasions of a spacious lake: On the northward is the river Jordan, which rises from two springs, and flows to the south: within the land rise Hermon and Tabor, future scenes of great events; and Carmel, neighbour to the western lake. Above all, keep in mind the figure of Sion, which rises in three hills, and the brook Siloah, which washes its foot. Nebo rears its towering head on the eastern side, and there the archangel has promis'd to meet thee; for if thou art not guided in thy walk by some celestial friend, fruitless will be thy wandering.

Now the daughters draw near to the long'd for time, when they were to bring forth their first offspring; and their fond imaginations anticipate the joys they were to feel from the little creatures entering the regions of light. They already in imagination, smil'd at them, with all the effusive transport's of a mother's love, and prattled to them as if present. As in ancient times a youth, when his father's  
stew-

steward, who had been sent to distant relations, to procure him a proper wife, was suppos'd to be returning with easy journies, every evening repair'd to some rising ground, that afforded him an extensive view of the country, through which his wish'd-for bride was to pass, while fancy adorn'd her with every beauty, the oval face, the sparkling eye, the rosy cheek ; a constellation of charms: such was their precipitate fondness for their babes : though yet unborn, they had already twin'd for them a wreath of joy, and not a grace was wanting in their form or minds.

Before SHEM left the mountain, the important hour arriv'd, and, as had been foretold, each of NOAH's daughters brought forth twins, a male and female. SHEM's spouse bore to him ELAM and AHALABAMA ; HAM's, swarthy CHUS and KETURA ; JAPHETH's, JAVAN and JAVAN's sister, the rosy-cheek'd DINAH. ELAM, CHUS, and JAVAN, were once the names of distinguish'd states, where, before the flood, myriads had dwell'd, and monarchs sway'd the awful sceptre ; and now their names survive in NOAH's progeny. THAMAR, with fond eyes, view'd swarthy CHUS, but with anxious heart, ruminated on the  
face

face of a person, who, in a portentous dream in the ark, was represented as oppress'd with all the ills of galling slavery.

MILCAH alleviated the pains of their delivery by expatiating on the sweet appellation of mother, the most endearing source of kindred; the band of fathers, sons and brothers: of being the mother of mankind, form'd indeed of earth, but actuated by GOD's immortal resemblance, the soul. Long, said she, have I been deny'd the sweet delight of attending children, harmless plants, at first but half alive, still adhering to the parent stem! How blunt their first sensations ere they have learnt to think! Welcome dear infants, I will introduce you into life: I will inform you to what dignity GOD has rais'd you by creation. I will teach you in your early years, to talk with your lisping voices of the goodness of the MOST HIGH. She now brought the children to NOAH's first embrace, who with a smile of parental affection cry'd:

I salute you, ye first-born of the Earth, so lately produced by the CREATOR's forming hand—so lately unform'd images of lifeless matter, now endu'd with a soul sublime, the  
breath

breath of the ETERNAL. Welcome into life—into life immortal here begun ! Ye shall be my future associates, when my tongue shall sing the ALL-GRACIOUS whom cherubim and seraphim, morning and evening hymn rejoicing ! Ye first display's of God's increasing goodness to this renew'd earth, be his praise your delight ! and may ye shew forth his abundant grace to those tribes who shall derive life from you. Ye shall be the progenitors of numerous nations ; for I see, I feel that God, will uphold this creation, his benignity has triumph'd over his indignation. Quick, ye children, be your growth !—auspicious rise to maturity ! Oh rise to the noble life of virtue : multiply and increase, replace mankind, exterminated by the deluge. But let not sinners, thus odious to God, be replac'd by your descendants : may they worship the LORD with purity of life. May ye, O my little children, walk before them in the paths of holiness ! O may ye carefully seek the seeds of purity, that have surviv'd the fall of ADAM, and cherish them in your hearts. May ye transmit to your posterity the most precious legacy, nobler than life itself, the graces of a pious and upright mind ! May latest ages be bless'd in your virtues ; from you receive the model of every excellence ; and while



while crown'd with blessings, they walk in your ways, with grateful exultation cry, Bless'd be our pious ancestors—eternal reverence attend their memory ! ELAM and CHUS and JAVAN, dear honour'd names, to you we owe these blessings ! You were the originals of that piety and virtue, from which they flow. That innocence, which ADAM by his disobedience had disfigur'd, you have again adorn'd with its original light ; and from your example, its beams have been diffus'd to your descendants.

HAM, taking his children in his arms, cry'd, I will praise GOD the deliverer, the rich influence of whose blessings, descended on the connubial night : soon will he replenish the earth with inhabitants. O that the LORD OF LIFE would give me the years of my ancestors, and then shall I see multitudes descended from me, through all the confusion of various lineage, and shall trace the sons of my sons, and the offspring of my grand children !

SHEM now descending from Ararat, advanc'd along the southern plain, where between two rivers, hills rose in gentle ascent ; the limpid waters had in some parts left their former bed ; they had not yet work'd themselves clear,  
and

and large tracts of sand lin'd their lowly shores ; but the higher grounds were already crown'd with rich pastures, where spring display'd its various beauties ; the flood having rather manur'd the earth, than destroy'd its fertility. With the same obedience to the creative word, as at their first creation, the buds disclos'd blossoms and flowers of various hues, that exhal'd their odours through the balmy gales. The bushes and branches afforded him ripe fruits, less delicious and beautiful indeed than those of Eden, but salubrious and adorn'd with inviting colours. SHEM, with grateful heart, at observing this fresh exuberance of blessings, now continu'd his progress near the Hidekel, which roll'd its waters on his left, thro' nameless tracts, wild and desert, without man or beast, or bird or insect. A dull silence brooded over the air ; in the fields and groves not the least sound of life was heard. All had a melancholy stillness, like that within the leaden gate, where sits the angel of death, ruling amidst perpetual silence. Scatter'd lay the bodies of men and beasts left on the land by the retreating flood. Yet the soil still afforded pastures, rich fields, and tufted woods : the shrubs shot forth their tender spires, and corn arose that promis'd golden ears. Various streams water'd  
the

the ground, and balmy exhalations were diffus'd through the aerial expanse.

After travelling some days along this region, so rich and gay, he came to the country, which lying at the foot of Paradise, he had often seen, where once the Hidekel and Perat join'd their streams, and thence in one current, water'd the splendid Thamista. Now the country seem'd unknown; for the Perat, instead of flowing from the west, took its solitary course towards that quarter. In traversing this tract, he pass'd by the walls of the city famous for its hundred brazen gates. When the pillars of the earth gave way, its palaces felt the shock, but were not all overthrown; they were now half bury'd and over-run with briars and weeds; among which projected fragments of pyramids, which the deluge having strew'd with earth, were cover'd with rising verdure.

SHEM now directed his course eastward, where the sacred mountain, once the mansion of innocence, lately bounded the prospect: but now no hill obstructs the azure circle of the sky. The country was cover'd with confus'd heaps of rocks, rude masses of marble, some in grotesque forms,  
the

the shapeless effects of the disruption of the soil. Among these lay stems of cedar, with the roots inverted, and their wither'd leaves all the remains of their former beauty. SHEM was strangely affected with pity and wonder, but little thought that what he now beheld, were the ruins of Paradise, the mountain defended by an angelic guard.

To avoid passing thro' these rugged devastations, he chose to return towards Thamista, which he had pass'd by unknown. He enter'd the city at an opening in the walls, through which had issued the Perat. The once splendid Thamista still retain'd an air of grandeur, still appear'd a work perform'd by the giants, those mighty sons of the earth. He saw the pensile gardens, saw stately colonades, and obelisks, some erect, while others lay broken on the earth. But the city wanted its proper inhabitants, a multitude of lofty trees lay on the top of OG's palace; the leviathan, the sword fish, the river horse and crocodile had taken their residence in his saloons, and the torpedo of benumbing touch, was there with her young, and all remaining till the water subsided had expir'd. SHEM offended at the smell hasted from the putrid ruins

At

At some distance towards the north, stood a pyramidical structure, the top of which rose above those sandy hills that cover'd its lower parts, and overlook'd all the other edifices. Not far from the top, SHEM discover'd a small brass door lin'd with the skins of tygers, and lock'd; but the key being in the door, SHEM, resolute in his curiosity, after many efforts, turn'd back the bolt, and enter'd the structure. Within he found a magnificent arch'd roof, with innumerable rooms and passages; but all the light was produced from a few expiring lamps of asphaltus and naphtha; and from this glimmering light, SHEM discover'd, in one of the chambers, thirty gigantic bodies cloth'd in purple, and on a tripod, lay a large roll of parchment, in which were the following words.

Should the hand of the incens'd DEITY spare any of mankind, let HADAD's example, be an admonition to the survivors. HADAD, the father of the HADADIM, a tremendous name, was the inventor of a torturing death, by forcing men to swallow food, till their entrails burst: This was his sport, when the springs of the deep, and the windows of heaven open'd their sluices.



fluices. The waters then rush'd on the earth, and I HADAD fled from the destruction; into this ample prison, with thirty of my issue, all that remain'd of three hundred. My sons, and my sons sons, here with me expected safety. The pyramid withstood the assailing flood, tho' not without many shocks, during those days, which to our continual fears, seem'd to move with leaden feet. Mean-while I had a vision in my sleep, in which I saw the men who had thus expir'd, and whose death had been to me the subject of laughter, arise from their graves, with their bellies open, and their bowels expos'd to my view. In vain I fled from the meagre spectres, and my sons fled with me. They chas'd us furiously with the skeletons of hounds, and ravenous wolves; but our flight was of no avail, they soon seiz'd us, and in return tore out our bowels. I awak'd full of horror, and found my sons in a deep \*sleep, yet with piercing voice, calling for bread. I have indeed been inhuman, yet not less inhuman must thou be, if the dreadful images of distress, which at this instant tortur'd my soul, do not excite thy compassion. They now awoke, and cast round their languid eyes for food; but on our table sat Want in the most hideous form. In the mean-while, the roaring thunder, and the noise of the tumultuous waves

waves struck my eyes. I then look'd at my sons, but was silent, and not a tear escap'd me. How should it? My heart was petrify'd? They wept, and LOTHAN, the youngest, ask'd the cause of my distress, but turning from him, I took up this pen to give vent to my affliction. Heavy hours pass'd away, before I could prevail with myself to look at them; and then I beheld, in the dejected faces of all the thirty, mine own ghastly appearance, which fill'd me with such agony, that I bit my own flesh. These, the affectionate sons of a savage father, supposing me excited by hunger, started up, and begg'd that I, to whom they ow'd their being, would slay them, and satisfy my hunger on the flesh that sprang from me. Not to encrease their affliction, I conceal'd the anguish of my heart, and still remain'd silent; the bitterness of distress closing my lips. The hours now came and pass'd away unperceiv'd; it was all one perpetual night, without distinction of morn or evening, and all were involv'd in misery, famine, and affliction. With difficulty I dragg'd myself to the door, to let in the flood, crying, Why should we wait till hunger consumes us? Those without, whom the flood has swallow'd up, have met with a speedy death, and the lofty Thamista is cover'd by a sea, without a shore, be our lot

the

the same. But the punishing hand of justice held the bolt, and the weight of the waters press'd on the door. After this, my sons successively dy'd, and I their father, with the keenest anguish, beheld all the thirty expire in dreadful misery. I continu'd to call them, as if still living: delirious I went from one to the other, and, and in the rage of my hunger, eat of their flesh: but on the first return of reason, I curs'd myself, and the day on which HADAD became a man. Over it may Orchus throw his fiery mantle! May the gods disregard it, and count it not among the days. Perish the years of licentiousness, and impiety, when with a mind estrang'd from GOD, I serv'd sin, and was the slave of SATAN: but curses are vain, and vain also is repentance. My obdurate heart was inflexible, when call'd to expiate my crimes; for I would not repair ages of vice, by one year of virtue; but now alas! good and evil are with me at an end, I am now no more, and the period of my life is as dreadful, as its course was detestable.

SHEM, with melancholy aspect, view'd the famish'd bodies, yet the imagery of death which they rais'd in his mind, excited no idea of fear.

In

In one of the rooms he composedly enjoy'd refreshing sleep, and awaking with the early morn, left the pyramid, and proceeded to the southward, till he reach'd the Perat, which the deluge had separated from the Hidekel; and pursuing his course along the bank of that prince of rivers, pass'd over a natural bridge of rocks, into a country, which though newly expos'd to the sun's fertilizing rays, made a paradisaical appearance. **SHEM** wander'd far into this delicious land, and pass'd through **Pharphar**, **Basan** and **Gilead**, to **Sibma's** vale, where already the forward vine, in wild luxuriance, spread her inviting clusters, and beheld rich fields, hills, and enchanting tracts, without a name, till at length, mount **Nebo** with rising terraces greets the duteous traveller's eye. Ardent he climbs the steep ascent, to view the country round. Here, a prospect vast and gay, widens at every step, and ravish'd he views **Basan** and **Gilead**, with **Pharphar** and **Abbanas** glittering streams. Within his view, amidst lesser hills, rose **Salem's** mount, in the midst of a flowery plain. Delighted his eyes stray along the dewy vale of palm trees, and the blooming spot, which was to receive its name from **Zoar**.

While intent on viewing the various prospects  
and in idea laying them out for the dwellings of  
men, RAPHAEL issu'd from an ambrosial cloud,  
in a human form, divested of that empyreal  
radiance he lately wore in the ark, when he  
deign'd to promise SHEM a meeting on this  
mountain. The devout youth bowing with re-  
verence, thus address'd the smiling angel, Shall  
the earth, after its destruction, be again favour'd  
with the visits of celestial spirits ! from their ap-  
pearance, our desolate abodes will derive a lustre  
infinitely superior to that of an assembly of kings,  
in all the royal pomp of state.

RAPHAEL answer'd, From those who are  
fill'd with the love of holiness, GOD and angels,  
are not far ; and henceforth over this happy  
land, which now lies before thee, and especially  
over Sion, shall open from the eternal stream of  
the celestial spring a lucid way, in which the  
ministers of Heaven, dispatch'd with high behests,  
shall descend in benign visits, to those sons of  
earth, who walk in the ways of the LORD : for  
this blessed land shall produce a race, distinguish'd  
by their piety ; first ABRAHAM who shall de-  
scend from thee, will become the object of these  
blessings.



blessings. There in Sichem and Moriah's plains, where thou seest a clump of rising oaks, he will receive GOD's gracious promise to give to his lineage this fertile land. ISRAEL, the third from him, will be the father of those tribes, who led by MOSES shall subdue the country. These shall be the people whom GOD will particularly choose to build him an house ; for the ETERNAL himself will dwell among them, and give them laws and statutes. MOSES, though distinguish'd by his miracles, will not enter the promis'd land ; he only will view it from this mountain, as thou thyself dost now. There, in the midst of the country where thou seest an eminence rising amidst smaller hills shall be the foundation of the temple of Jerusalem the holy city, sanctify'd by the glory of the LORD. Every spot of this country shall be distinguish'd by some great event, especially Bethlehem, where the incarnate SAVIOUR shall be born : There the virgin mother shall bring him forth—there the divine babe shall first smile. Famous also shall be yon mount of Olives, on this side the holy city, and Cedron, the future name of that brook, which thou seest, waters the foot of Olivet. The divine REDEEMER will often seek that recess, where he will offer up prayers to the FATHER for mankind ;

H 2

kind ; but mark that hill towards the west, on the left of Sion ; there on the torturing crosses, by the guilt of the people, the murderers of the prophets of GOD, will the SAVIOUR compleat the great work of redemption.

RAPHAEL ended, and SHEM reply'd, Great and momentous are these events, though in the conclusion mournful, and to our offspring an indelible reproach, yet are they pregnant with the sublimest happiness and glory ; especially to me, from whom the SAVIOUR will condescend to derive his earthly form. Let the grateful glow, which thy prophetic message has kindled in my breast, speak my thanks, for words cannot. But wherefore do I not hasten from the mount to hail those tracts, in which my SAVIOUR will pass the days of his incarnation, especially Bethlehem, the native place of the Divine Babe, the brook, the mount of Olive, his recess for solitary orisons, and that dismal mount, where he is to finish the decreed redemption. Commendable is thy desire, return'd RAPHAEL, and I will assist thee in its speedy execution. Then raising SHEM from the ground, with gentle motion, he glided down ; and passing Jordan's broad stream, proceeded o'er the land, and  
fat

fat him down on Bethlehem's hallow'd ground,  
by the spring, which was not then distinguish'd  
by DAVID's name. SHEM with reverence,  
greeted the happy land, that should receive the  
impression of the REDEEMER's feet, scoop'd out  
the water in the hollow of his hand, and drank of  
the crystal stream. RAPHAEL then continuing  
his airy progress, alighted with him on Olivet,  
amidst the olive's new-form'd shade. Thence  
he remov'd to more lofty Sion, whence he look'd  
down on Golgotha. These places the devout  
patriarch view'd with throbbing heart. But  
while his eyes were ranging over the affecting  
scene, he perceiv'd, seated on an olive branch,  
a dove adorn'd with radiant plumage, that dif-  
fus'd a lovely day amidst the thickest shade.  
Among the wing'd inhabitants of the ark, none  
ever shone with such bright, and resplendent  
colours. On seeing SHEM, the grateful bird  
left the branch, and with sounding pinions, thrice  
encircling his head, confident alighted on his  
hand. The sight of the dove alarm'd SHEM,  
who knew not whence it came, and was wonder-  
ing how any thing which had not been in the  
ark, could escape the universal destruction;  
when the angel observing his solicitude said,  
Knowest thou not that dove? It was in the ark

• with thee, and is the same which return'd with the olive leaf. Seeing it fluttering alone in a field of wheat, I took it, and from mine effulgent wing, plac'd a feather on its breast, which gave its whole body this celestial brilliance; then directed his aerial track, to these umbrageous recesses, here to wait the coming of men, and point out to thee the spot, where near Siloa's purling stream, thou shalt build the first house of the patriarchal metropolis. Let this lucent form excite thy devotion; for in like manner as the dove hover'd over thee, the Divine Spirit, which proceeds from the FATHER, will one day descend with radiance from the open heavens, on Jordan, and like a dove shall hover over the Son of Man at his baptism in that stream: while the FATHER will declare from the highest Heavens, This is my beloved SON.

The dove then return'd to the olive, and the angel left SHEM, at Siloa's silver stream, which flowed near the foundations of the future temple. Here NOAH's son remain'd for some time, in order to still the emotions of his heart; but when the fourth morn darted its orient beams above Moriah, he sat out on his return, rejoicing in  
the

the glad tydings he was carrying to his aged father, and at length arriv'd within sight of Ararat's cloud-top'd summit.

On his coming within the mount's extensive shade, he found the silence of death gradually succeeded by chearful life. The voices of several creatures undulated through the air; first, he heard a mingled murmur, which, as he advanced, became more distinct. He then distinguish'd the buz of insects, the warbling notes of the birds, the neighing of the steed, and the lowing of the horned cattle. The beasts on seeing SHEM ascend the hill, assembled about him, and in obsequious gambols, paid homage to their benefactor.

The first of his family who met him was DEBORAH, who standing on a peak that commanded an extensive prospect, had waited his coming; and on seeing him, hasted down the declivity, with each arm tenderly clasping to her breast the two infant pledges of his love. After their ardent embraces, in which, though short his absence, were shed some tears of joy and conjugal affection, she led him to the tents, which his re-



turn fill'd with new happiness. NOAH, particularly delighted, hung on his look, while in graceful speech, he related that the Perat, instead of its conflux with the Hidekel took its solitary course in a western direction; that the superb Thamista lay in ruins, half bury'd while the saloons of voluptuousness were strew'd with the loathsome caresses of the crocodile, the river horse, sword fish, and leviathan; that HADAD and his children had perish'd in the pyramid, by famine; that from Pisgah, for so he call'd the mount of Vision, his enraptur'd eye had view'd the MEDIATOR's chosen land; but though it lay before him, in all the blended pride of every season, yet he saw it not in its fairest point of view, till the benign RAPHAEL descending, pointed out to him several scenes of the most important events relating to the MEDIATOR; and that he had visited Moriah, Olivet and Sion.

His narrative excited various emotions in the attentive audience; but above all gratitude for the copious provision made for them, and an earnest desire of passing the remainder of their pilgrimage on earth, in that bless'd country, where their REDEEMER had resolv'd to pass the days of his mortal life, and gladden its towns  
with

with his gracious miracles and heavenly instructions.

NOAH applauded their desire; he had been inform'd in a dream, that the GOD of his fathers, would meet him on the holy hill of Sion. He only waited for the return of SHEM, that he might be his guide; and now, without delay, they prepar'd to descend the hill, taking with them apparel, utensils, and the prophetic paintings, perform'd by an angelic pencil. The beasts of burden, the horse, the camel, and the ass, stood obsequious to receive their lading.

When the rising sun irradiated the third morning after SHEM's return, the patriarch, with all his attendants, prostrated themselves on the earth, and worshipp'd Him, who amidst the destruction of the flood, had preserv'd their life, and had cloath'd the earth anew, with fruit and herbage; that from its prolific bosom, innumerable tribes of future generations, descended from them, might receive plenty of sustenance, and who for their dwelling, had planted a new Eden which was to give birth to the divine REDEEMER.

H 5

Now

Now they hasten to load the beasts with their apparel, furniture, and whatever was valuable; together with the remainder of the fruits, the spoils of Paradise, that had been left in the ark, while the camels spontaneously couch'd on their knees, to receive the women, with their sucking infants. Thus they descended from the mount, and proceeded by short and gentle journeys, lest greater speed should incommode the fair travellers. At the head of the band was SHEM, who being now acquainted with the way, was their guide. Nor did they travel without attendants, the beasts of social disposition, grateful and joyous, accompany'd their known benefactors. These, though few of each kind, were no inconsiderable number. The feather'd species also augmented the procession, some sporting over them in blythsome circles, or flying before, waited their approach on the trees and shrubs; and as they pass'd saluting them by warbling forth their sprightliest melody: but the beasts of savage kind remain'd in the caverns of Ararat; yet the half rational elephant followed at a distance the persons who had endear'd themselves to him, by their daily tenderness.

Thus,

Thus, in chearful journeys, the founders of mankind proceeded, and at length perceiving Nebo's lofty summit, and leaving it far on their left, they pass'd the Jordan, near its twofold source. They then proceeded through the fragrant vale, where rising palms were preparing delightful shades, for future Jericho. Now the happy land where Moriah lifts high its awful head, opens to their ravish'd view: then the happy resemblance of the Paradise of God, though now rocky and deform'd. It consisted of plains and gently swelling hills, crown'd with fruit and aromatic shrubs, a wilderness of sweets, where nature in her reviv'd youth, as before the fall, play'd her virgin fancies. As one exiled wanders disconsolate from country to country, lamenting his domestic hearth, on permission to return, with pleasing joy, examines the country, soon knows again the fields, and glows with transport at beholding the scenes of his youth; so melting joy possess'd NOAH's young family, at the sight of this delicious land, to which the spikenard, cassia, cinnamon, and balm of Paradise, seem transplanted, with all its beauties, lying in gay confusion. The enraptur'd

tur'd females now express'd their several emotions.

Hail flowery meads, said KERENHAPUCH, hail ye woods and hills, thou new creation hail! almost as fair as that destroy'd by the deluge! Delightful abode, where we shall tranquil pass our days! Ye flowers and plants of Paradise, here will I again attend you with assiduous care. Here you will thrive no less than in Eden. To you my pretty DINAH, will pay her earliest visits, and you at even will be her latest care.

THAMAR continu'd: Rise Sion, and thou Moriah haste; for thus ye hills I name you; haste to crown your towering heads with spreading cedars; cover them with projecting shades, through which Siloa's brook shall run in sweet meanders. When my swarthy CHUS and little KETURAH, he hand in hand with DINAH, she with ELAM, shall gather dates among your wilds, and pluck the bark of the cinnamon; oh softly pour your fragrance on their young discourse; influence the palpitations of their unexperienc'd hearts, and from your lonely shades breathe tranquillity and pious contemplations.

DEBORAH,

DEBORAH, closing the salutation with thoughts more sublime, cry'd, I also hail thee, fit dwelling of patriarchs and prophets, land which in future times, angels and the SON of GOD, shall deign to visit. Here the incarnate REDEEMER shall frequent the shades of Olivet and Siloa's brook. Ye waving cedars, with softest whispers, invite him to your cooling shades! Ye fragrant gums, frankincense, myrrh, and balm, more copious flow, and weeping, drop your big joyful tears at his approach, while every gale shall bear to him your willing incense.

Thus they sang on seeing Moriah and Sion, while the glowing flowers, and verdant foliage seem'd to rejoice at their approach.

An unusual resplendence beaming from an olive tree, now attracted SHEM's attention, and he soon saw the shining dove, lately the messenger of the earth's revival, now pointing out the place where NOAH was to build the first house of the sacred city. The dove expanding its lucid wings, descended, and welcom'd them with gratulatory cooings; then rising mingled with its fellow birds.

The



The men now with quick dispatch, pitch their tents by the side of Siloa's inviting waters, and then single, or with arm thrown round their lovely wives, rang'd the adjacent land in search of fruit, of flowers, and gums distilling from the fragrant shrub. From the mountain they now discover'd a beautiful spot more profusely deck'd with flowers of richest hue, on which SHEM's devout spouse thus express'd her desire, confident of his compliance.

When I think on Bethlehem, where the incarnate REDEEMER shall unveil his infancy ; and on the purling rill, that will, perhaps, lull the Divine Babe to sleep, or refresh his limbs with the cooling streams, I long to taste the healing water. Thou SHEM hast dipp'd thine hand in the limpid brook, and know'st its course. Oh lead me to it : a higher pleasure thou can'st not do me : a pleasure I hope void of guilt. I long to lay myself down on the flowery bank, and regale myself with its stream.

Thy design, said SHEM, is pure as the brook itself, and willingly shall I lead thee to it. He then

then led her to the spring, she kneeling kiss'd the rock from which it issu'd and with her hands scoop'd draughts of its crystalline stream. They then return'd, and the same sun which had seen them set out to the brook, lighted them back to Sion.

Soon the mountain was cover'd with other inhabitants than those preserv'd from the deluge; animals which there first saw the light; birds of glossy plumage, and melodious throat, flutter'd from spray to spray, while hill and plain rang with the ruder sounds of domestic animals, desporting in the newly receiv'd light.

The patriarch, now observing the great increase of the cattle, determin'd to offer a conciliatory sacrifice, not only of the lips uttering praise and thanksgiving; not only of ascending incense, accompany'd by prayer, but of blood; not like that of ABEL calling for vengeance, but interceding for grace and reconciliation. He therefore order'd his sons to bring to Sion's summit the first born male of every species of clean beast and fowl, well form'd and without defect. He himself went up the mount, and there found  
blocks

blocks of vein'd marble, of a regular form: of these he constructed the altar, and consecrated it with a libation of oil. His sons now advance with their victims, which being slain, and laid on the altar, he offer'd them as a grateful sacrifice to GOD, their Almighty and all-gracious DELIVERER.

During the oblation, the patriarch and his sons worshipp'd, in humble prostration, with their heads bow'd down to the earth. Their devout orisons ascended with the smoke of the offering; and such favour did their duteous homage obtain from the ETERNAL, that he descended to the altar, and invisible gave them His benediction.

O NOAH, said the voice divine, dismiss thy fears and apprehensions, the chastising hand of justice has discharg'd its office, and henceforth, never shall it visit with such destruction the human race, so prone to fall, so easily perverted: I will set bounds to the sea, which it shall not pass. Kindly dews and gentle rains shall cherish the soil, and each succeeding year, the spring shall be cloth'd with verdure and blossoms, forerunners of plenty. Take then possession of the land, thou my faithful servant, whom I,  
for

for this purpose, have preserv'd, and for thy sake, have renew'd the earth. Plain, valley, and hill are thine, thou shalt people them with tribes innumerable. To thee and thy descendants, I give the earth, with all beasts, fowl and fishes; and to man's rule I subject them. I farther promise, and on my promise and reconciliation, man may securely rely, that to the end of time, the earth shall be no more destroy'd by a deluge; and behold, as the seal of this promise, I have plac'd my bow in the firmament, which shall ever be to man a sign of my covenant and forgiveness.

The devout family then looking up with extatic joy, beheld the ethereal bow shine, in the vary'd lustre of colours, arrang'd in beautiful gradations, with magnificent circle girding the earth on the eastern side of the firmament.

NOAH then with uplifted hands, thus address'd the DEITY :

LORD,

LORD, what is man that Thou art thus mindful of him? Is he not the dust of the earth, animated with the breath of life Thou hast imparted; but unhappily is depriv'd of that innocence which the divine breath communicated to his heart? Was it not for him, that death was created? Man is sin and misery, but Thou art all grace and forgiveness. Thou wilt not utterly cut off his race; even amidst the flood Thou hast preserv'd a seed for him—for him Thou hast renew'd the earth. Oh how are we more precious in Thy sight—how are we more deserving of Thy clemency, than they who perish'd in the deluge? But Thou bowest the Heavens and comest down; Thou adornest them by Thy chearing bow, to shew and confirm Thy goodness! Will celestial TRUTH, then condescend to enter into covenant with a worm?—Oh for the seraph's fire, for his flaming adorations, that I might more lively feel, and more warmly express the sense I would entertain of this Divine love! Oh that my ascriptions of praise might ascend with the sublimity of an heavenly spirit! Aid me, ye my bless'd  
ancestors,

ancestors, and chief thou ADAM and ENOCH, to offer on this earthly altar the praises of our GOD ! and ye cherubim and seraphim exalt my grateful song with your transcendent strains !

Thus NOAH pour'd fourth his gratitude, while the fire consum'd his typical sacrifice. The vivid bow's rarify'd colours now insensibly faded, and the ETERNAL spake no more.

The sacrifice being ended, they repair'd to their tents, and the following days other occupations demanded their attention. Olive trees and cedars of antediluvian growth, yield to the axes of NOAH's laborious sons, who now on the plan of SIPHA's mansion, where their lov'd spouses drew their breath, erect a house ; but more spacious ; the rooms more and larger ; the outside of cedar, and the lofty roof fenc'd with rushes in neat arrangement : beautiful olive separated the chambers : the floors were inlaid with chequer'd mosaic, and some rooms were hung with tapestry, the employment of their spouses virgin days. In an ample saloon were plac'd the prophetic



phetic paintings, RAPHAEL'S inestimable work.

This tranquil dwelling NOAH call'd Salem,  
the House of Peace. It was his settled residence,  
whence succeeding generations of his descendants  
spread over the habitable earth.

THE END.



8 DE59



